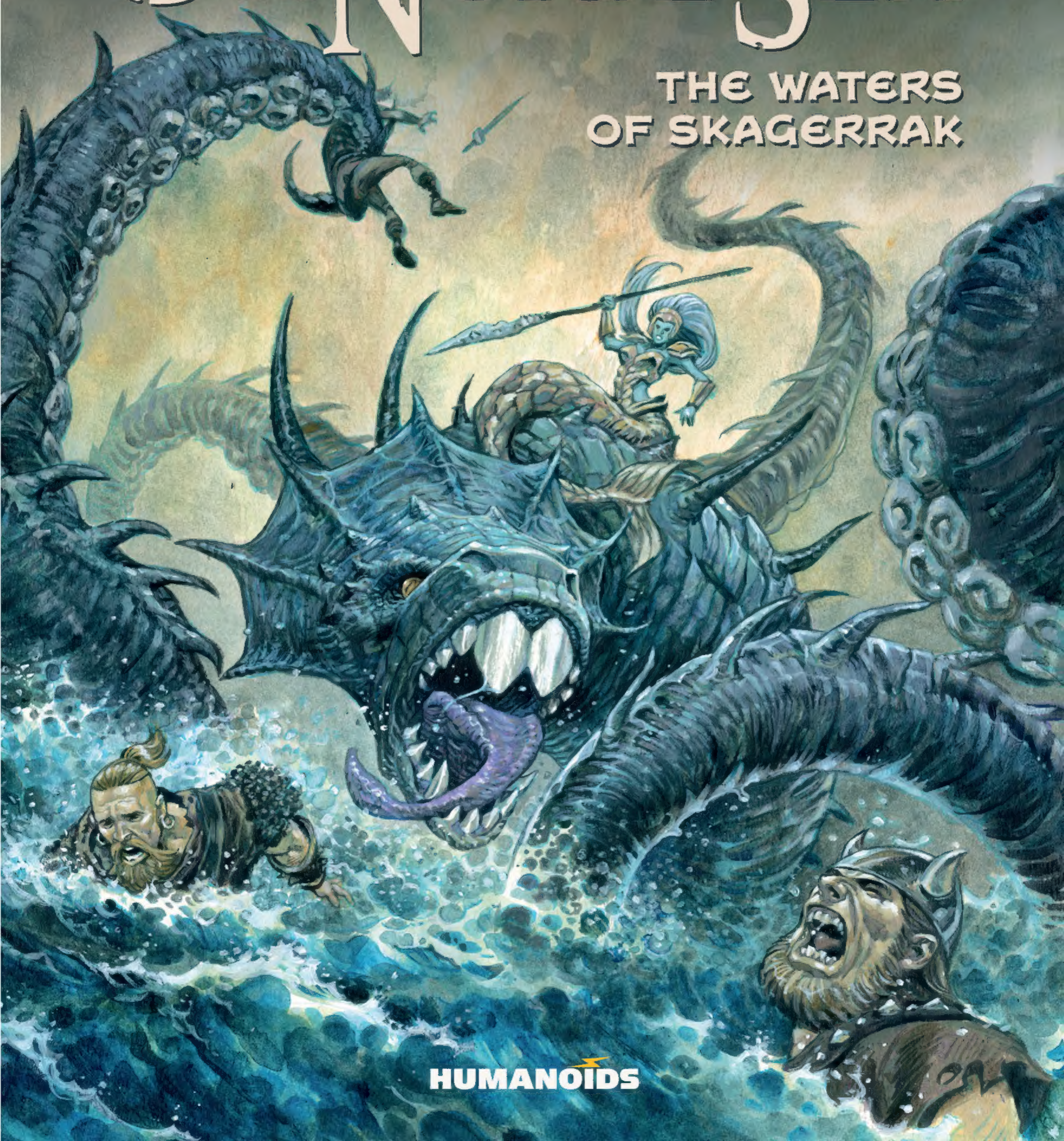


SIRENS OF THE NORSE SEA

RUSCAK GIHEF
BRIONES & DOMINICI

THE WATERS
OF SKAGERRAK



HUMANOID[★]S

THE SCOURGE OF THE ABYSS



SOGNEFJORD

NOREEGR

TYRIFJORD

KATTEGLAND

TROLL
VILLAGE

SVEA

NORTH
SEA

SKAGERRAK

KATTEGAT

PALACE OF
AEGIR

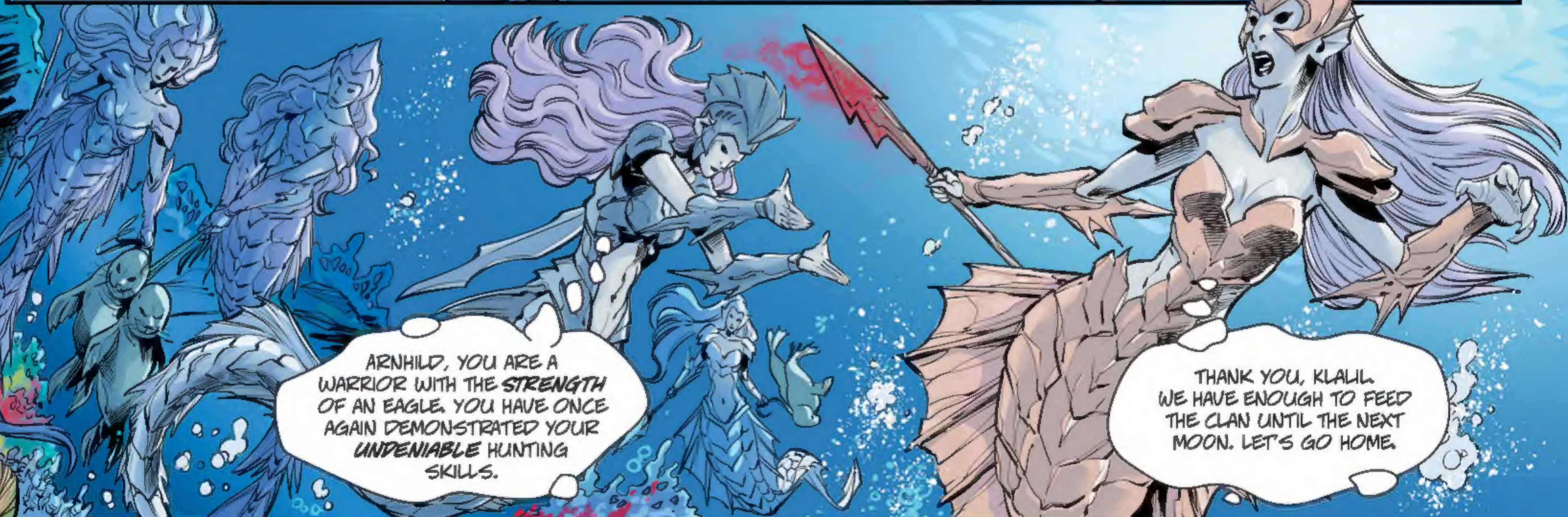
NEWT CAVE

DENMORK

BALTIC SEA

EAST FRANCIA

AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE
SKAGERRAK AND THE KATTEGAT.



ARNHILD, YOU ARE A
WARRIOR WITH THE **STRENGTH**
OF AN EAGLE. YOU HAVE ONCE
AGAIN DEMONSTRATED YOUR
UNDENIABLE HUNTING
SKILLS.

THANK YOU, KLALIL.
WE HAVE ENOUGH TO FEED
THE CLAN UNTIL THE NEXT
MOON. LET'S GO HOME.

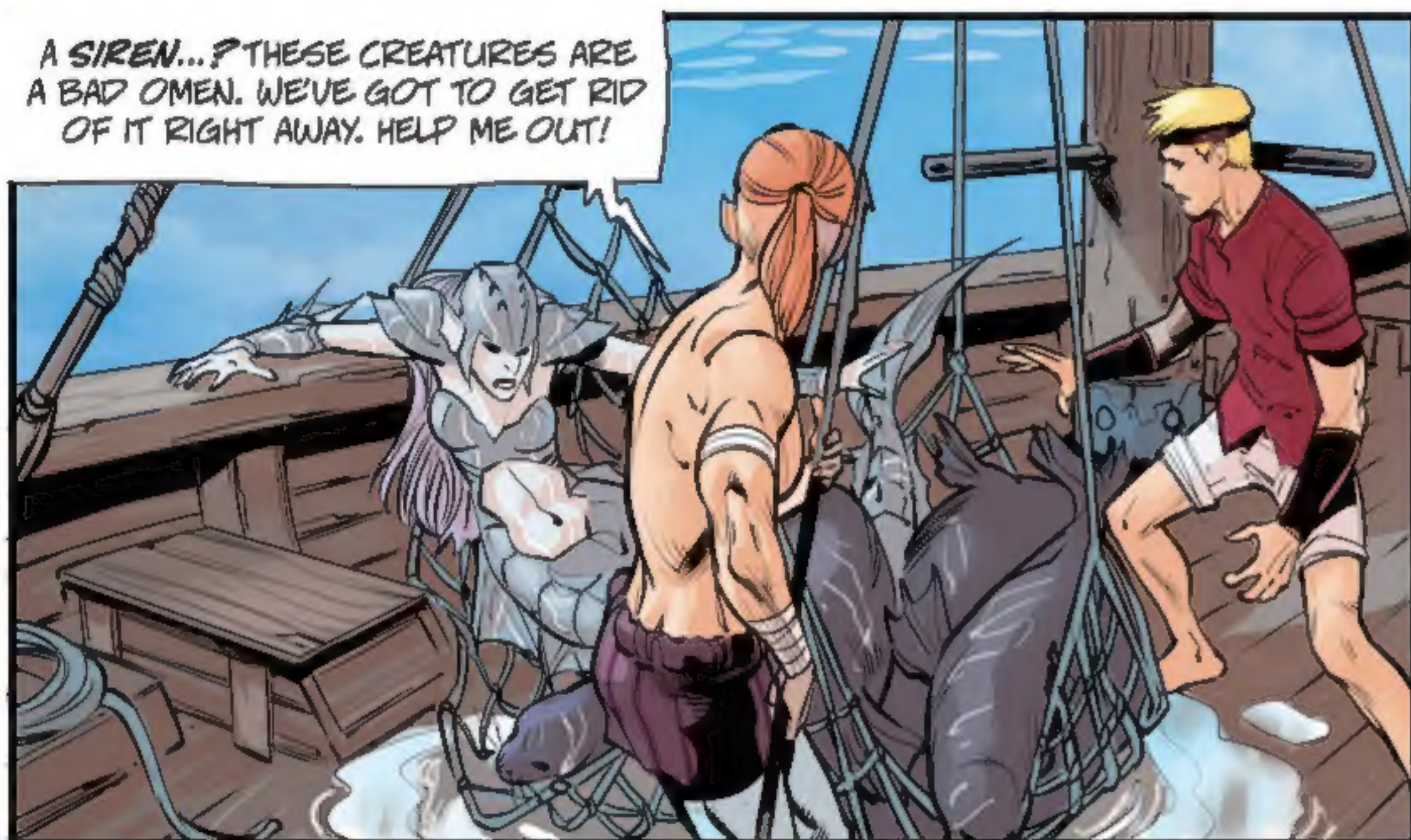
AAAAAAH!!



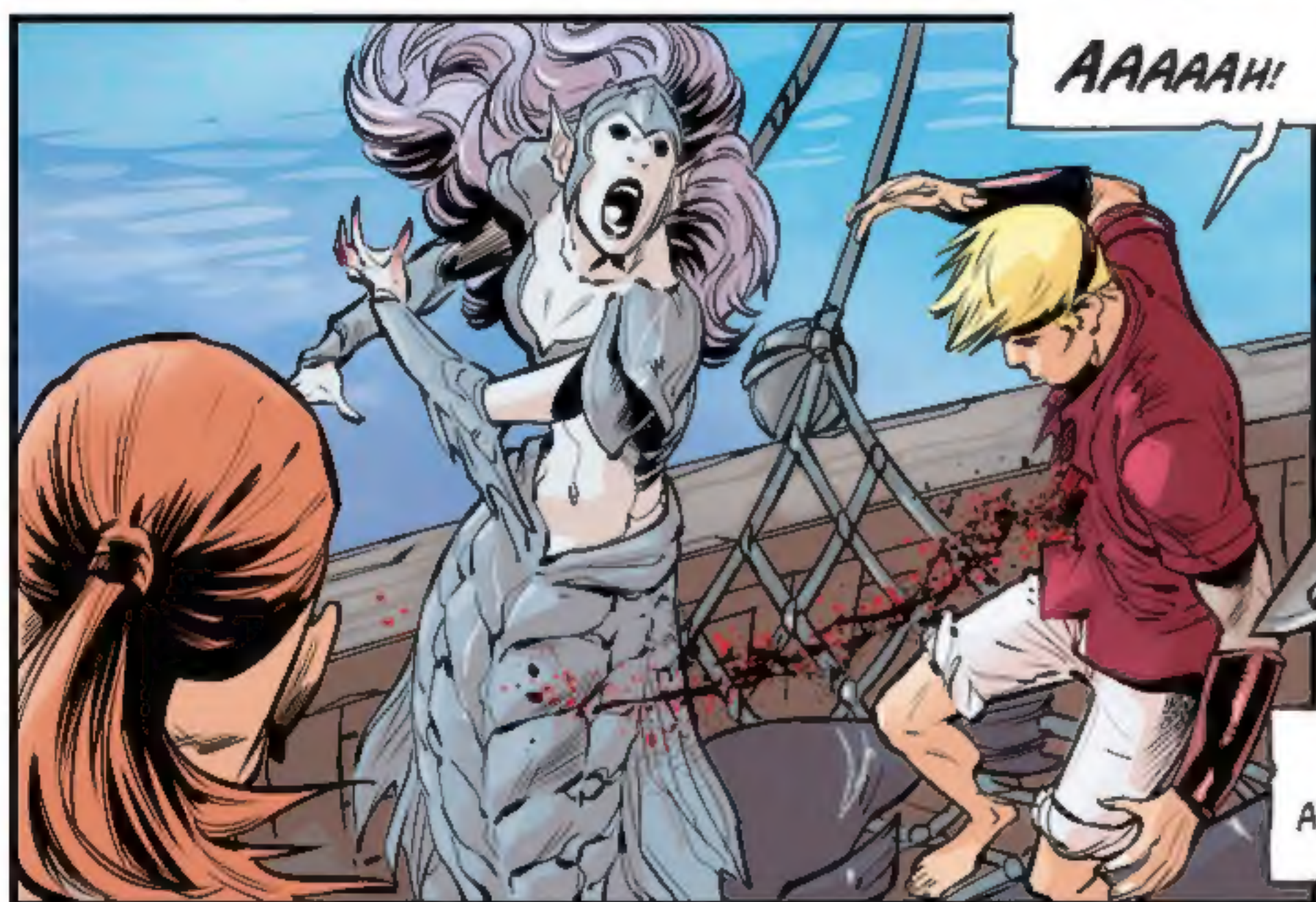
DON'T WORRY!
I'M COMING!



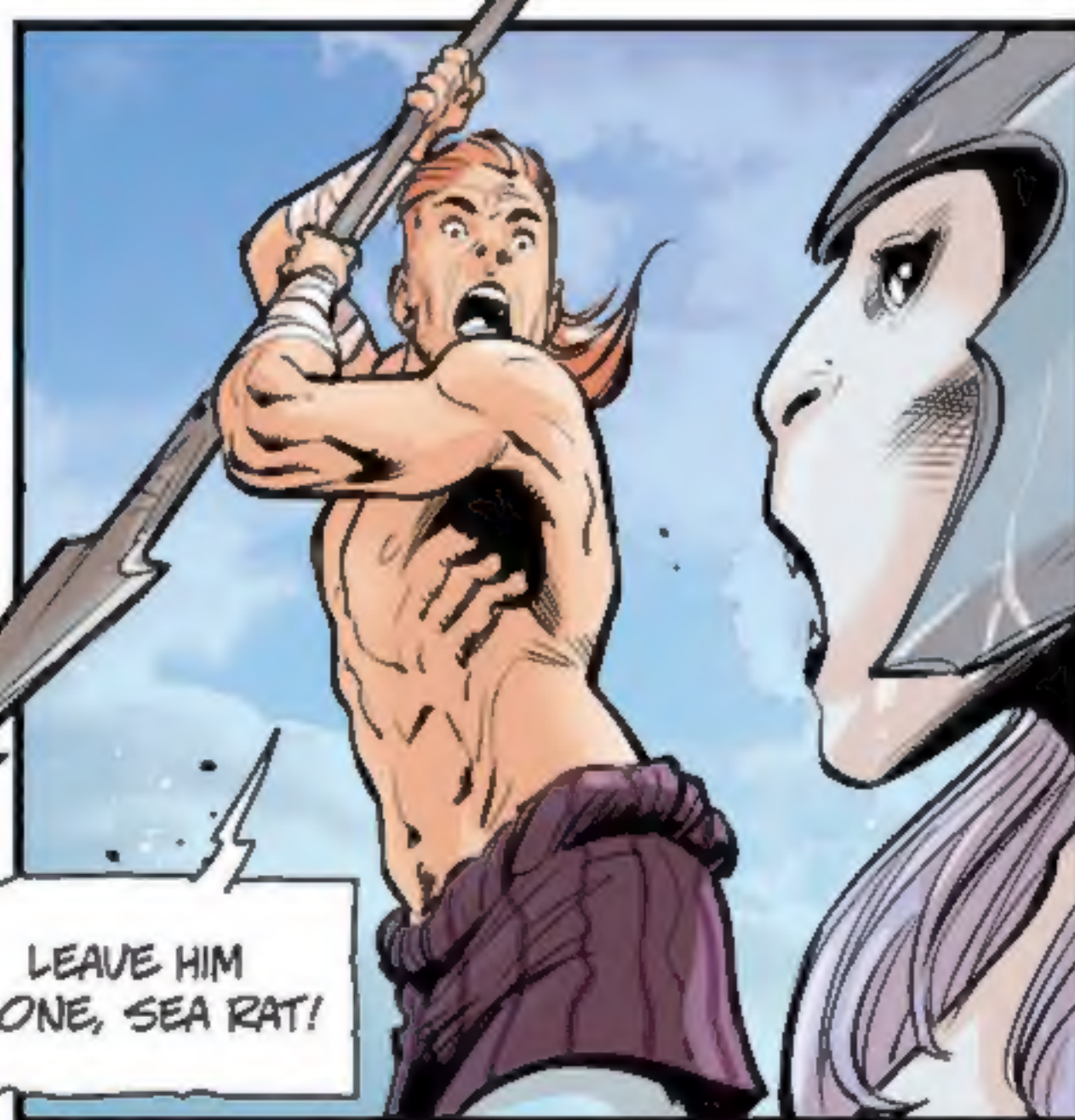
A SIREN...? THESE CREATURES ARE
A BAD OMEN. WE'VE GOT TO GET RID
OF IT RIGHT AWAY. HELP ME OUT!



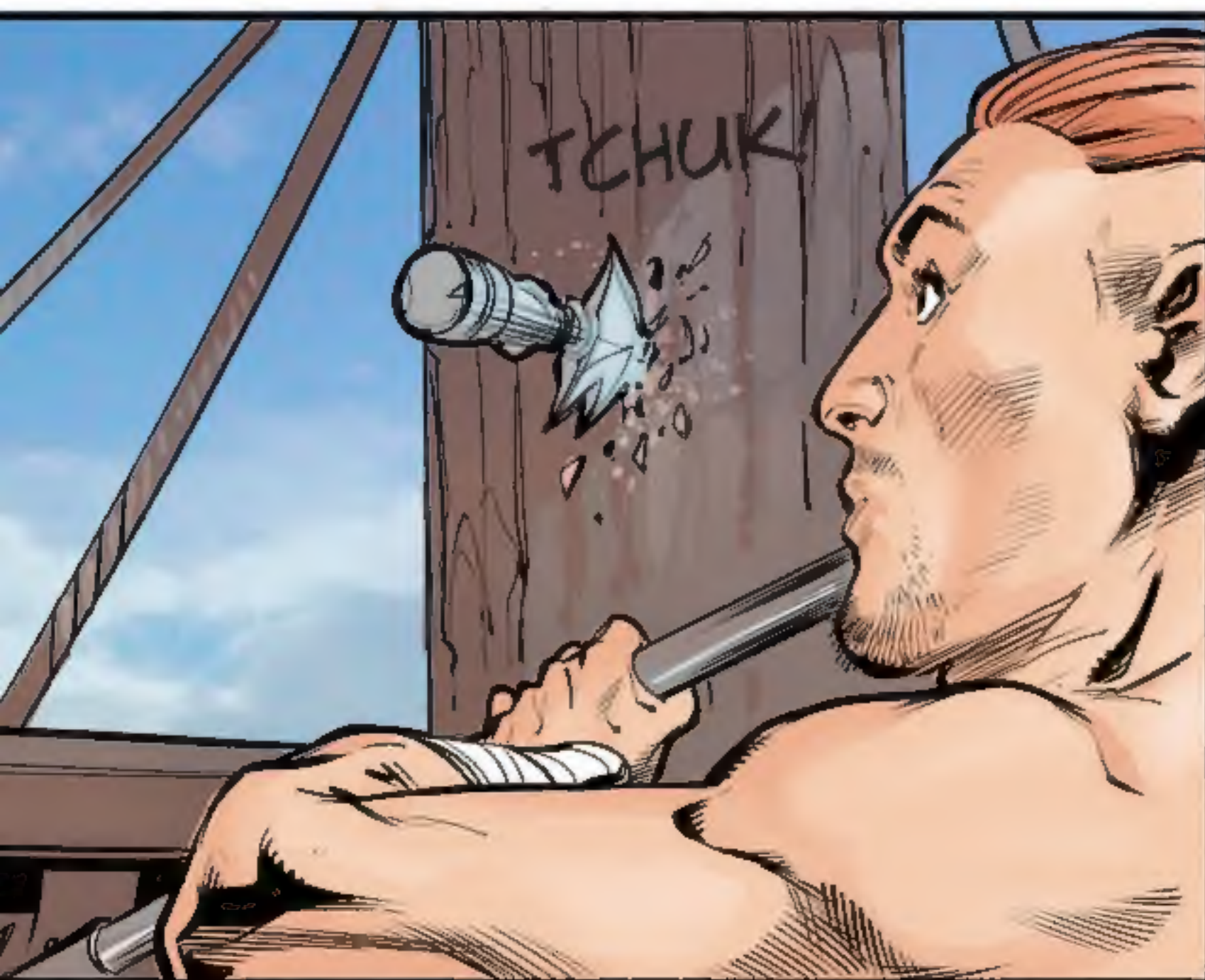
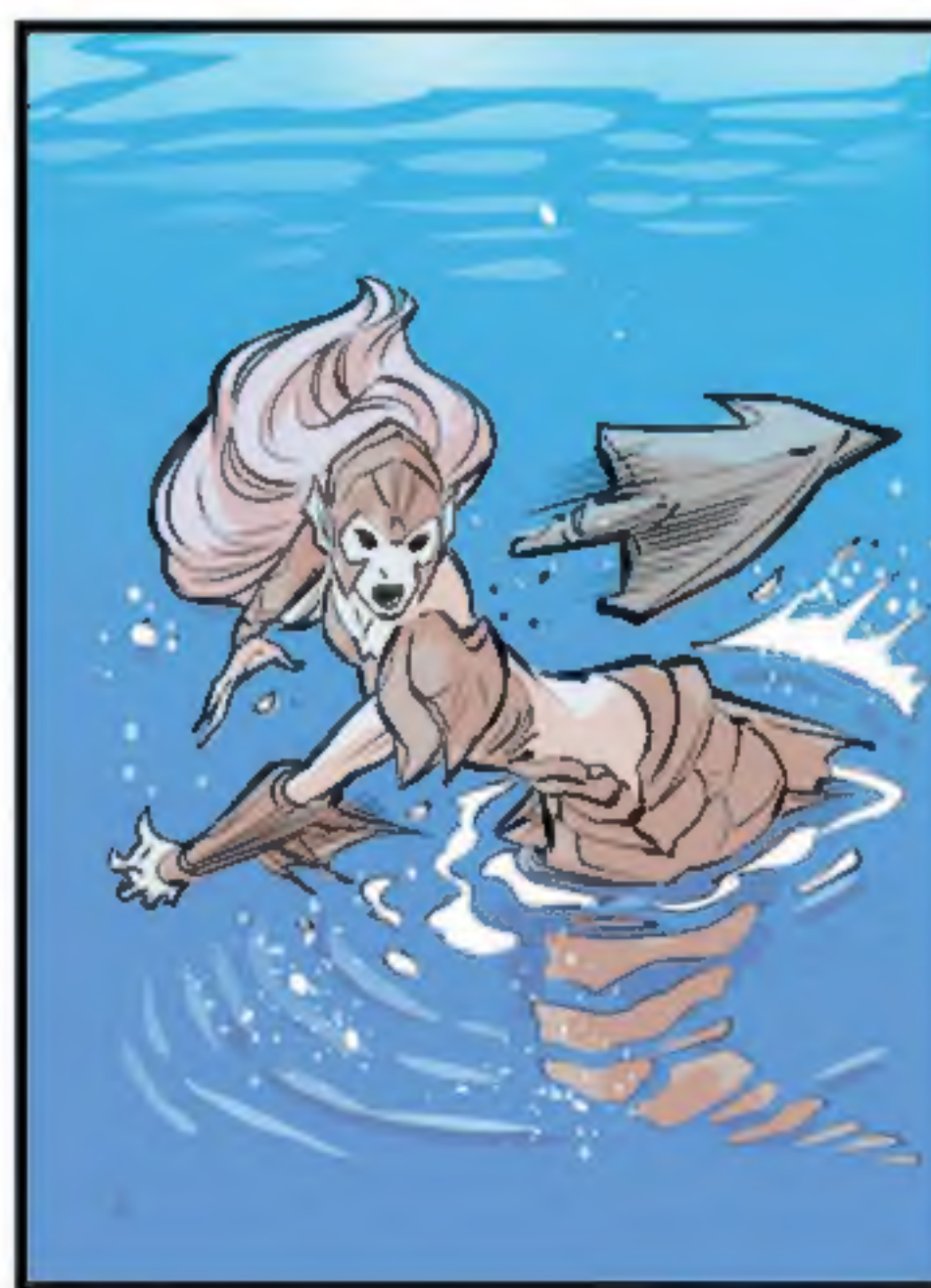
GO ON! GET
OUT OF HERE!



AAAAAH!



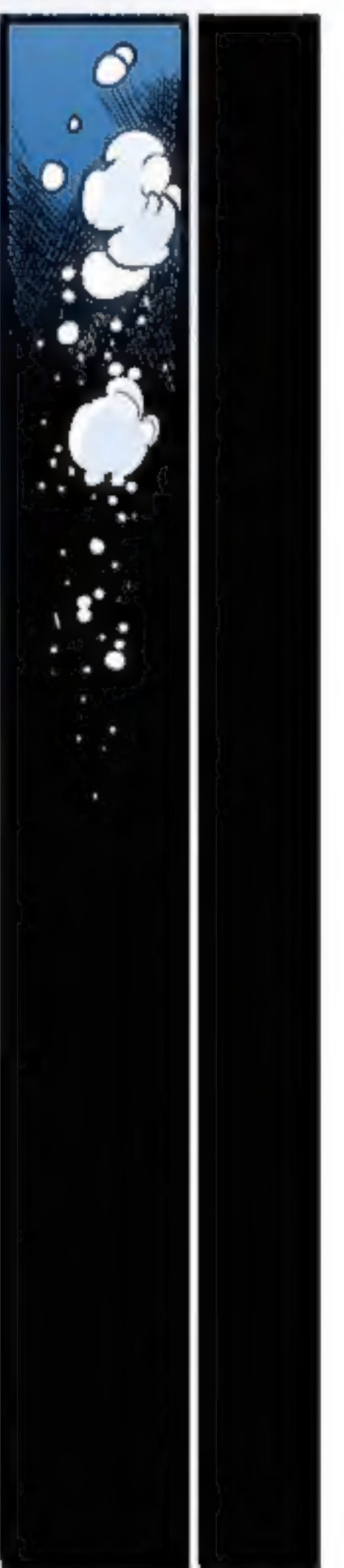
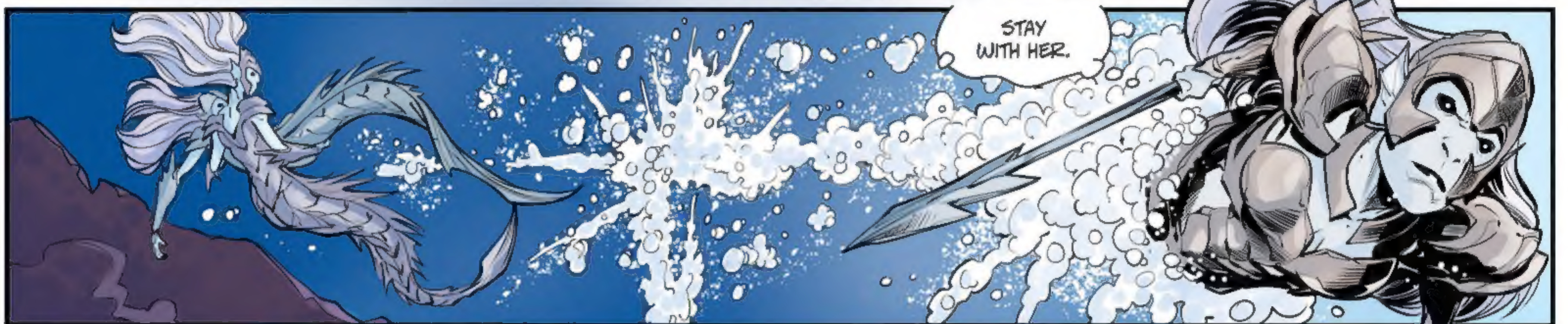
LEAVE HIM
ALONE, SEA RAT!

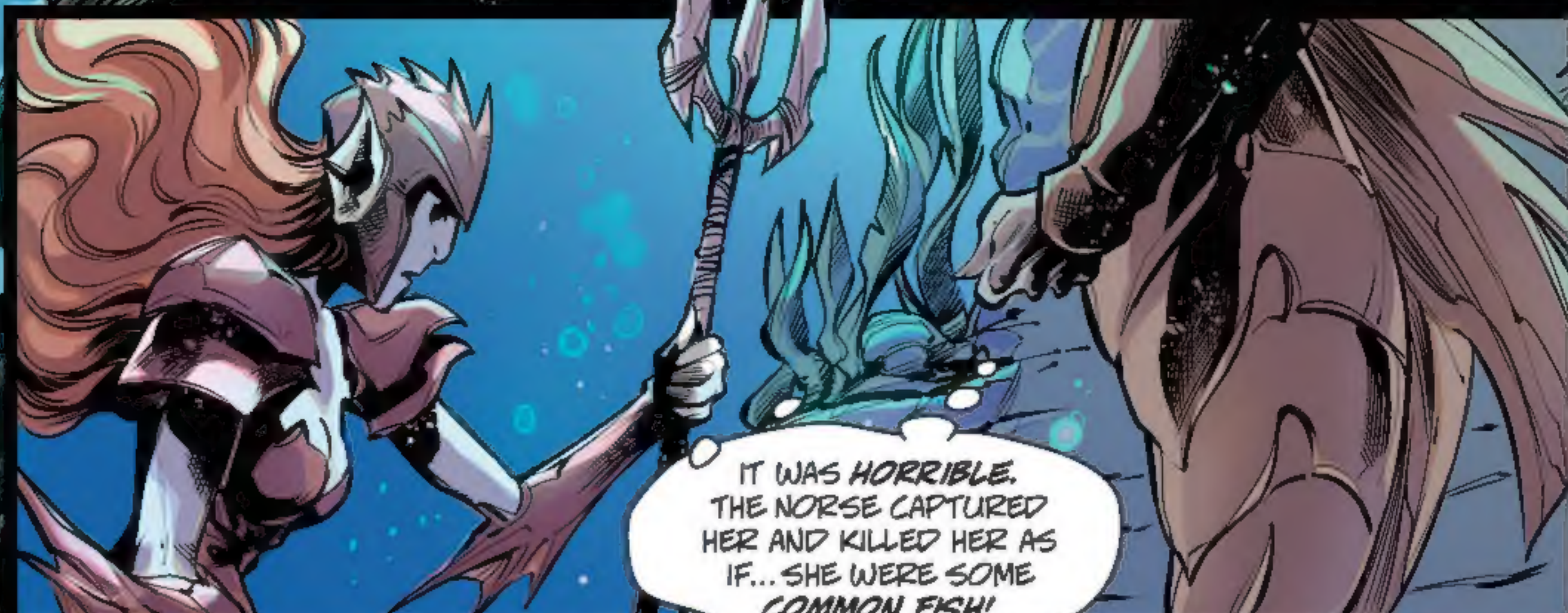


TCHUK



AAAAAH!





IT WAS HORRIBLE.
THE NORSE CAPTURED
HER AND KILLED HER AS IF... SHE WERE SOME
COMMON FISH!



MY DEAR OUMNA.
MY YOUNGEST DAUGHTER...
SHE WAS SO FULL OF LIFE...

I'M SORRY,
MOTHER. I... THERE
WAS NOTHING I COULD
DO TO STOP THEM...



THIS CAN'T HAPPEN
AGAIN. THE NORSE
HAVE TO PAY FOR THEIR
CRIMES. THEIR BLOOD
MUST BE SPILLED.



YOU SHOULD
ASK YOUR SISTER
DUFU TO WAKE
JORMUNGANDR.

I SHARE YOUR GRIEF,
BUT I WON'T DO ANYTHING
OF THE SORT. THAT ISN'T THE
ANSWER TO OUR SORROW.

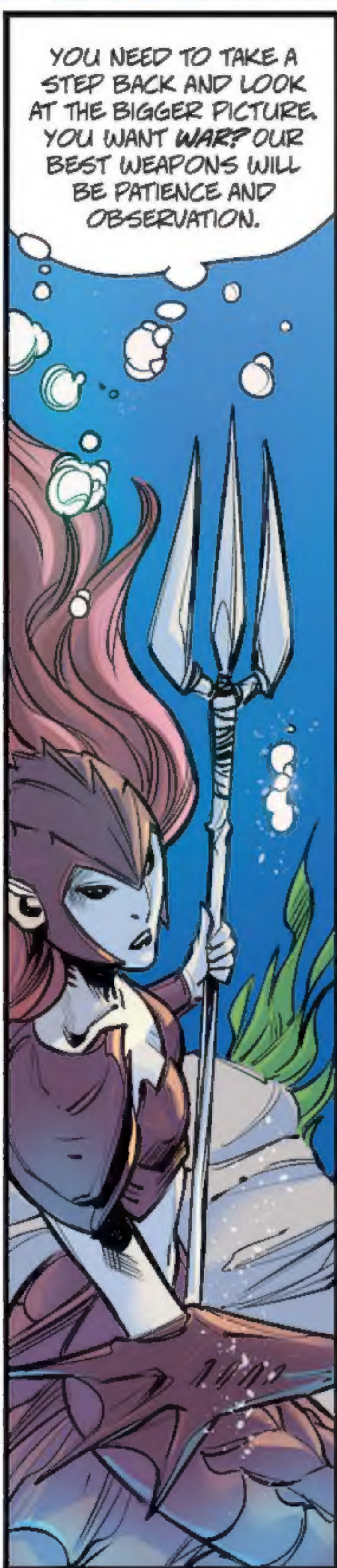


I DON'T UNDERSTAND. ALL THIS TIME YOU'VE BEEN TELLING US ABOUT HOW *CRUEL* THE NORSE ARE... THEY AREN'T AFRAID OF US ANYMORE, AND WHAT'S WORSE, THEY *DESPISE* US. THEY'VE BECOME DANGEROUS.

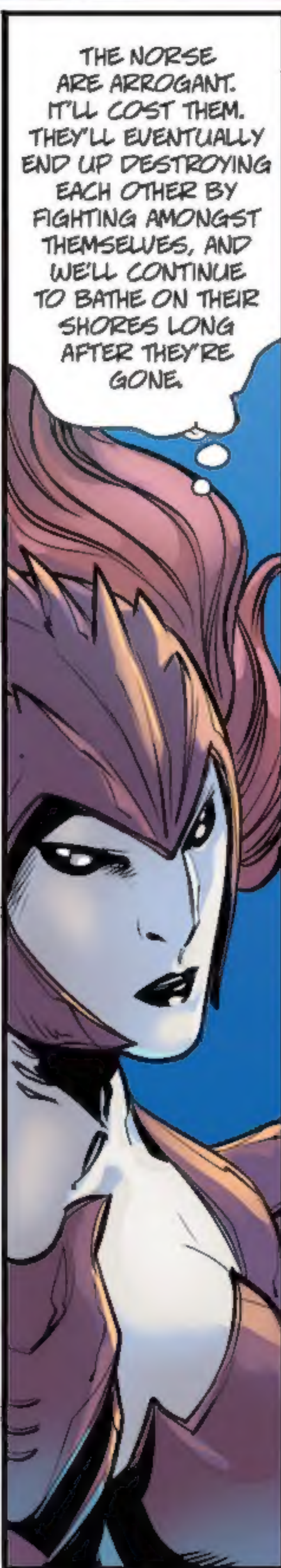
YOU GIVE THEM TOO MUCH CREDIT, DARLING.



TOO MUCH CREDIT?! WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO OPEN YOUR EYES? ONCE THEY'VE SLAUGHTERED OUR WHOLE CLAN?



YOU NEED TO TAKE A STEP BACK AND LOOK AT THE BIGGER PICTURE. YOU WANT *WAR*? OUR BEST WEAPONS WILL BE PATIENCE AND OBSERVATION.



THE NORSE ARE ARROGANT. IT'LL COST THEM. THEY'LL EVENTUALLY END UP DESTROYING EACH OTHER BY FIGHTING AMONGST THEMSELVES, AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO BATHE ON THEIR SHORES LONG AFTER THEY'RE GONE.



NOW LEAVE ME. I HAVE TO GET READY TO BID OUMNA FAREWELL BEFORE HER JOURNEY TO THE OTHER WORLD.



SO, HOW DOES MOTHER PLAN TO AVENGE OUR SISTER'S DEATH?





A FEW WEEKS LATER.



... WE'LL TAKE THIS CHANNEL IF THE GODS ARE WITH US, WE MAY EVEN ARRIVE SOONER THAN EXPECTED.

YOU'RE IN A HURRY TO SEE THE SAXON WOMEN, AREN'T YOU? THEY'RE GOING TO PAMPER US WHEN THEY SEE THESE FURS AND AMBER STONES.

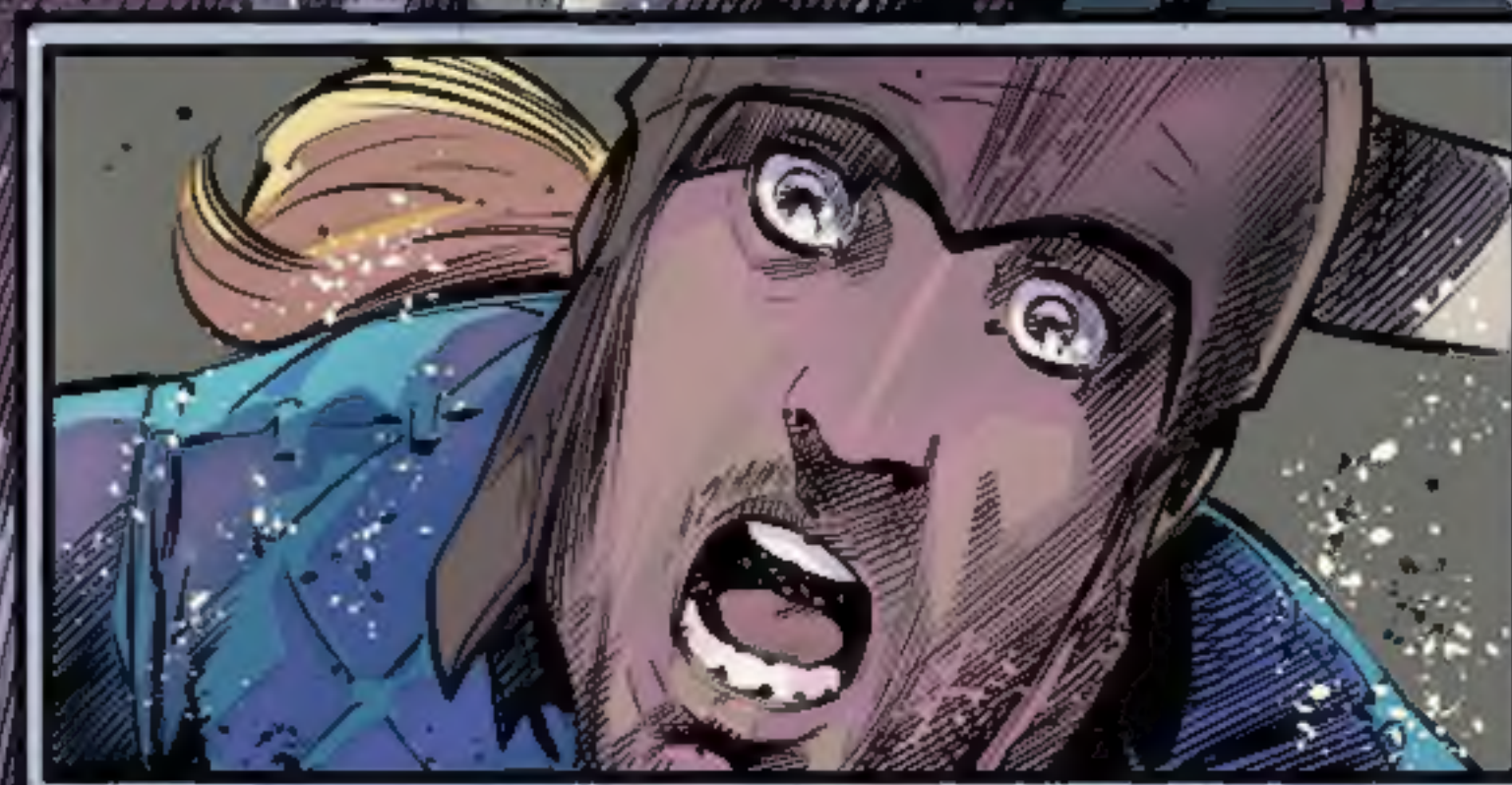
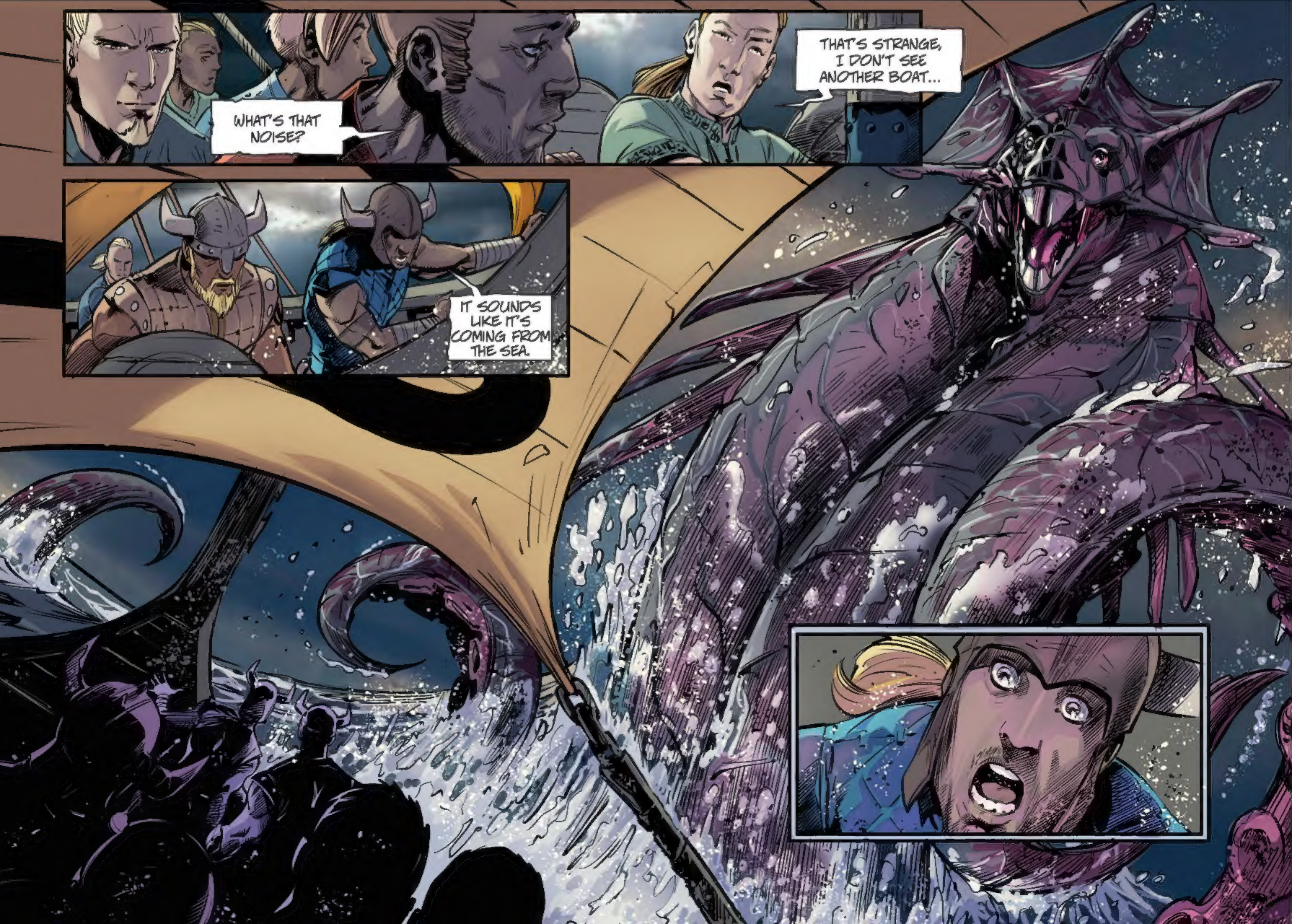


WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

THAT'S STRANGE, I DON'T SEE ANOTHER BOAT...

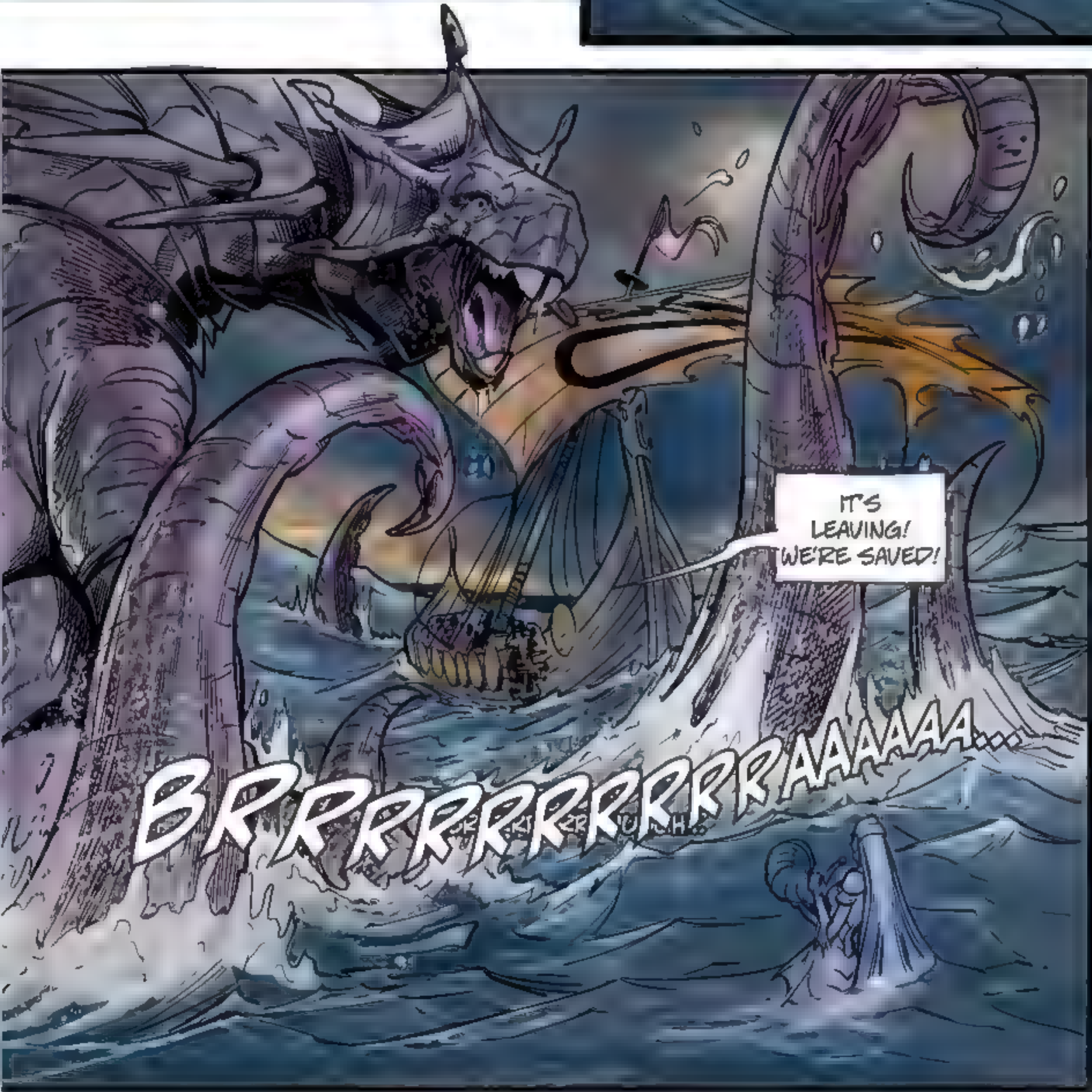


IT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S COMING FROM THE SEA.

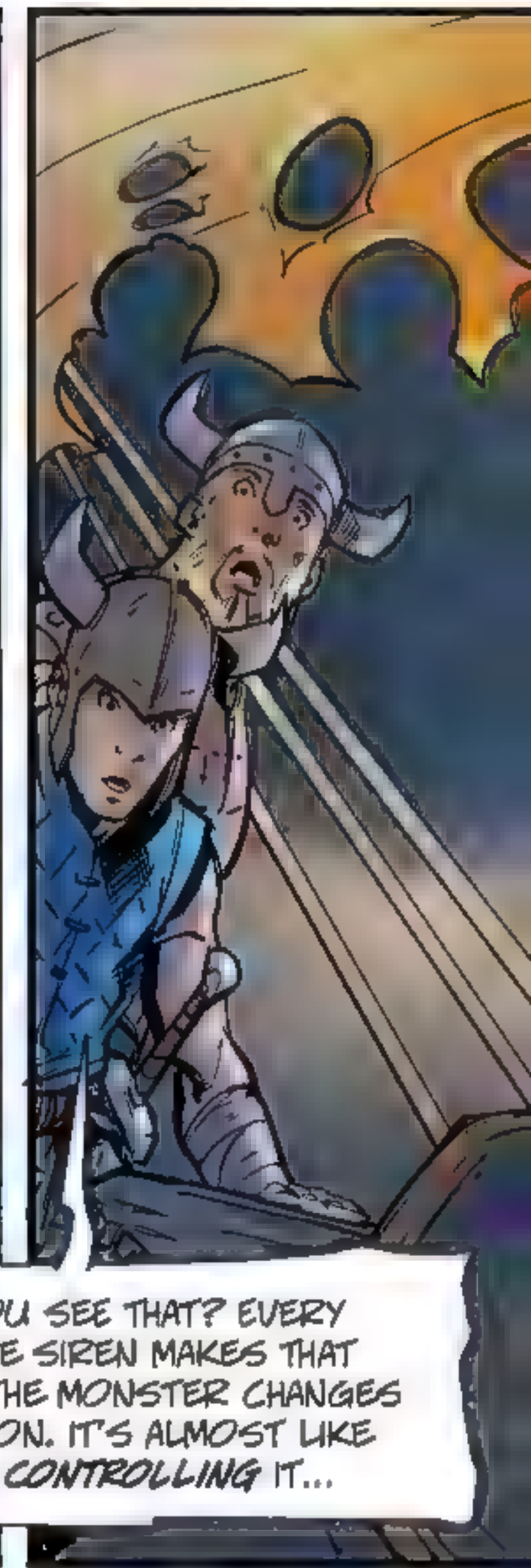




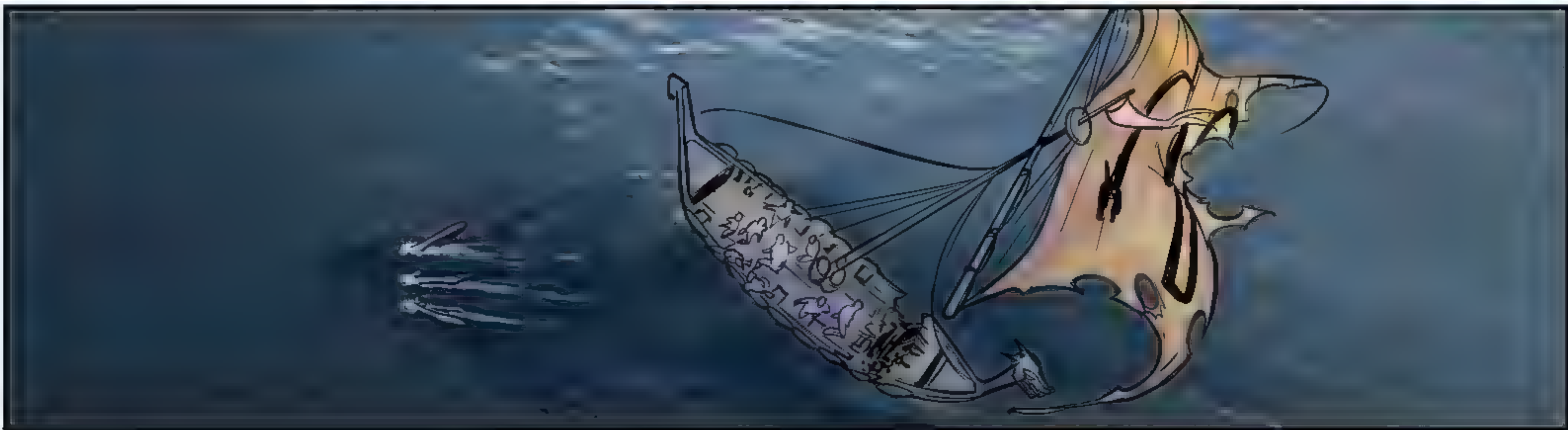
IT'S
JORMUNGANDR!
RUN!

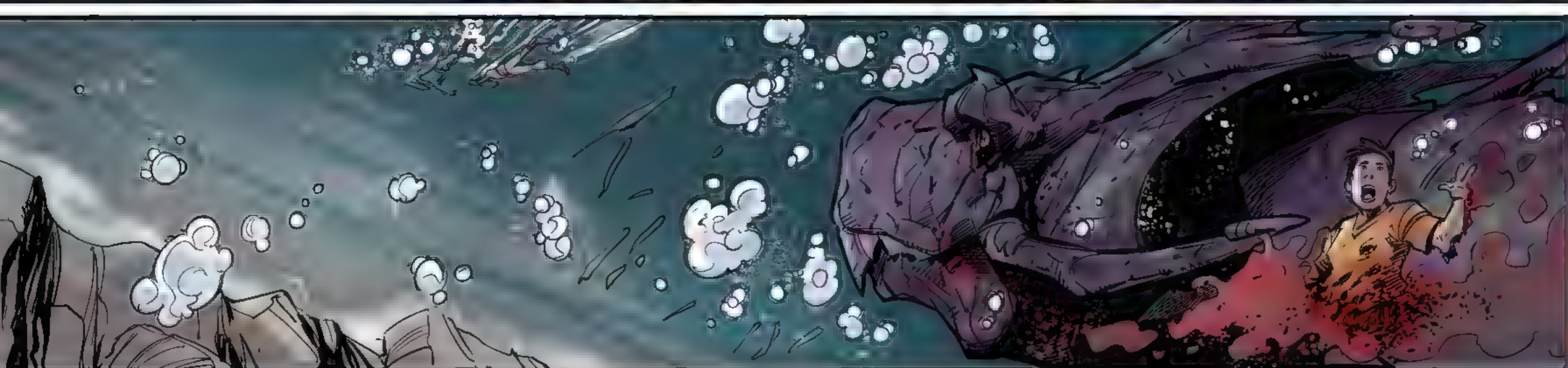
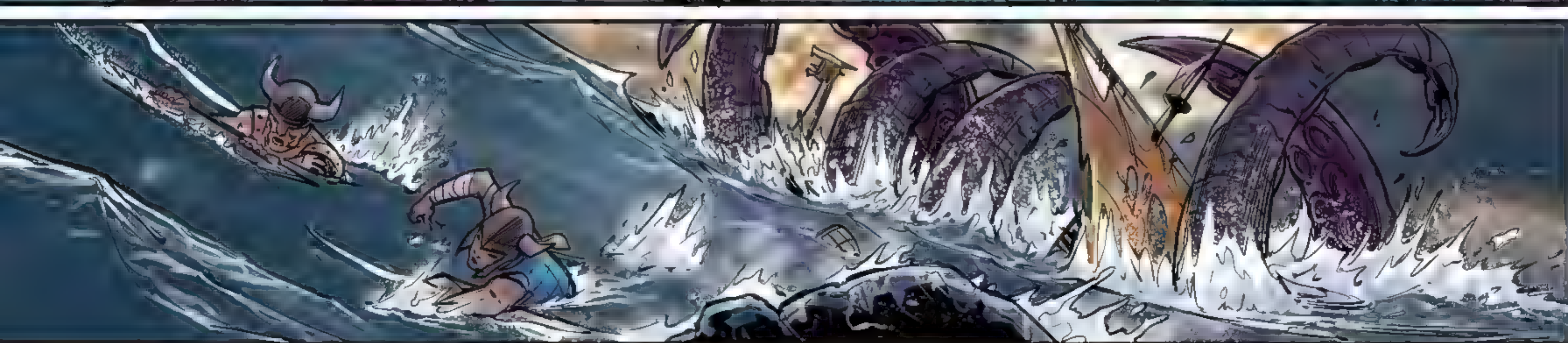
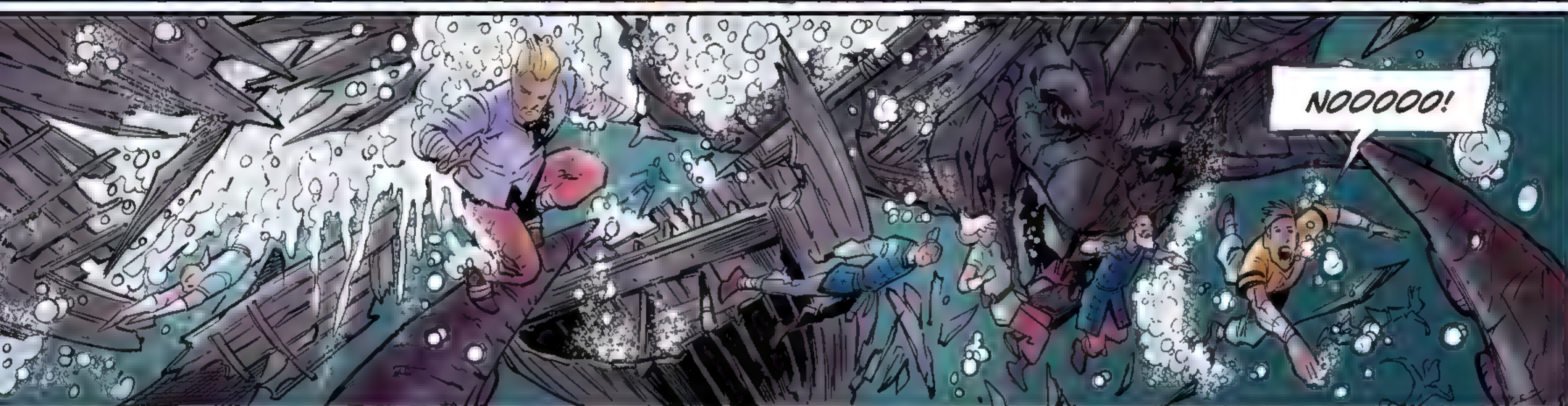
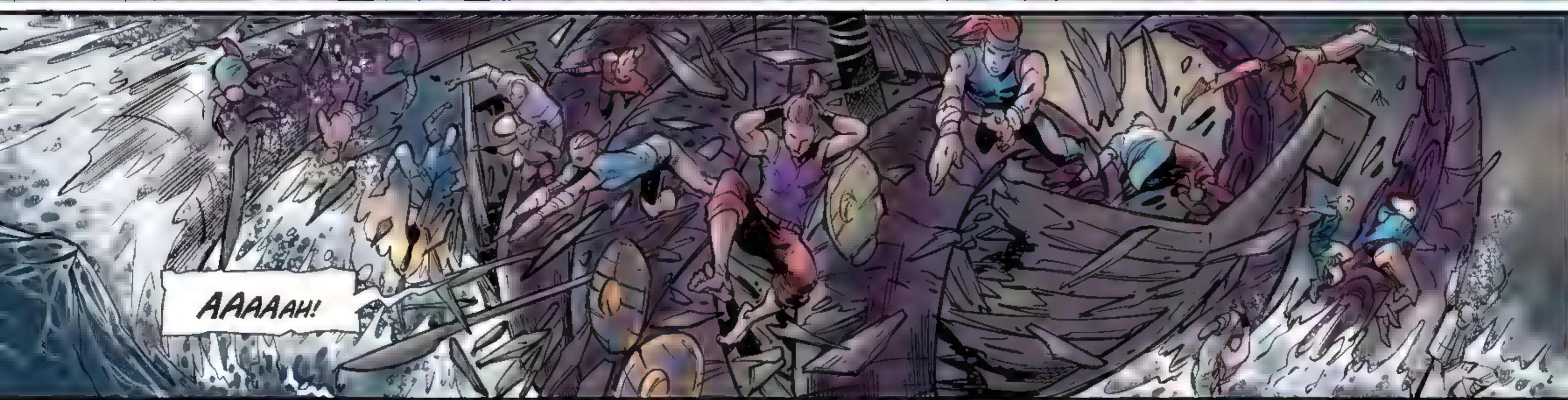


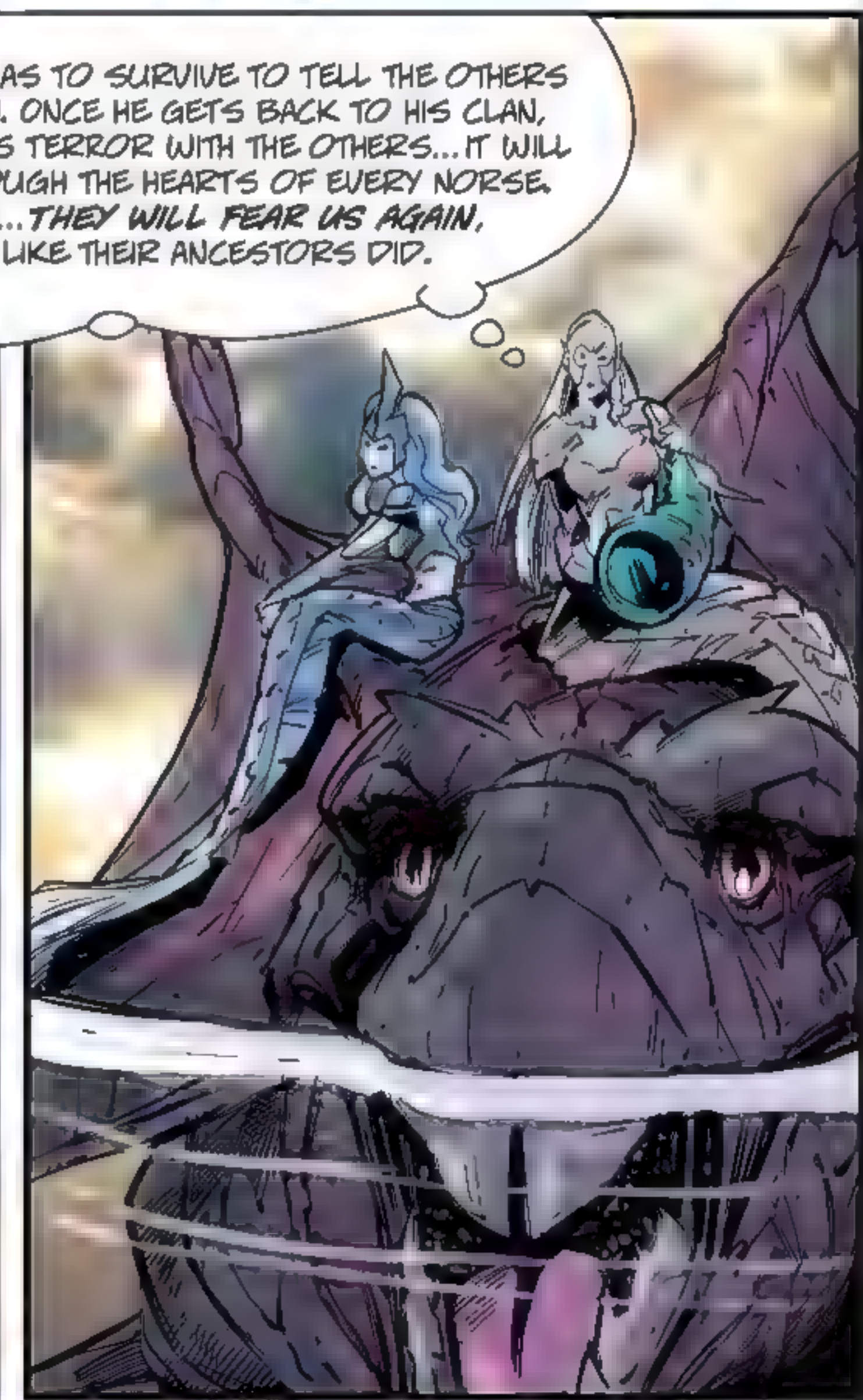
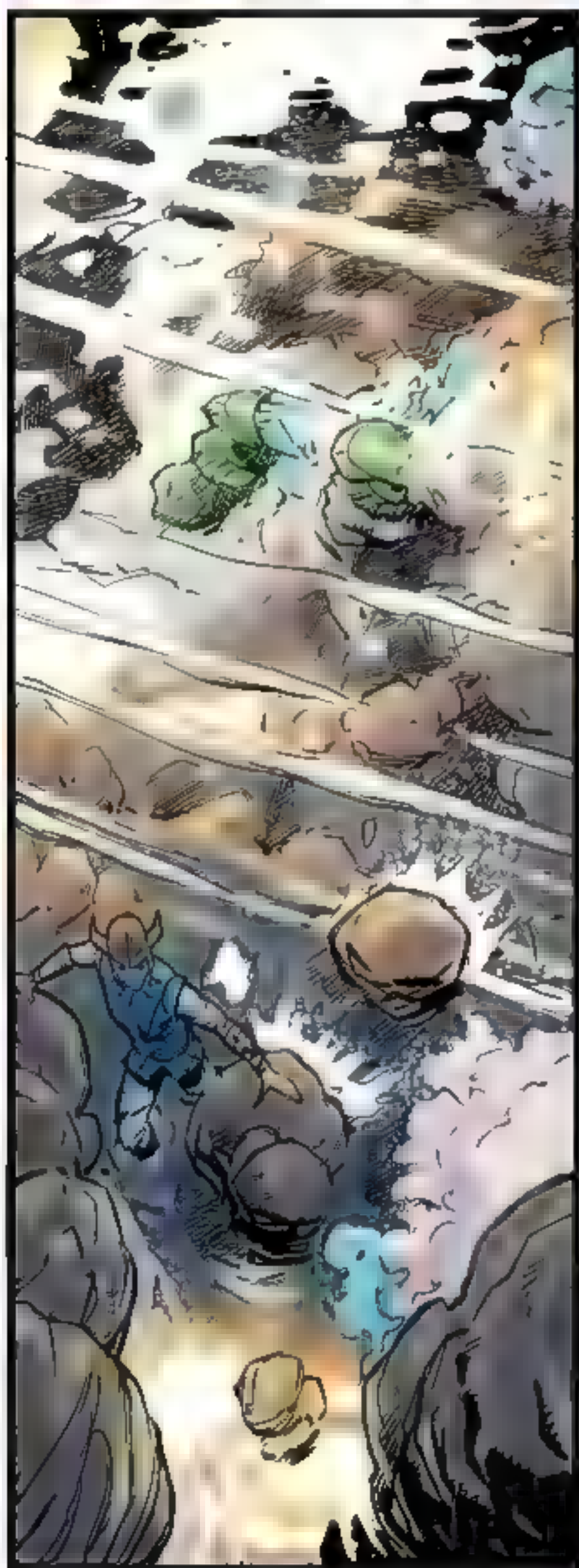
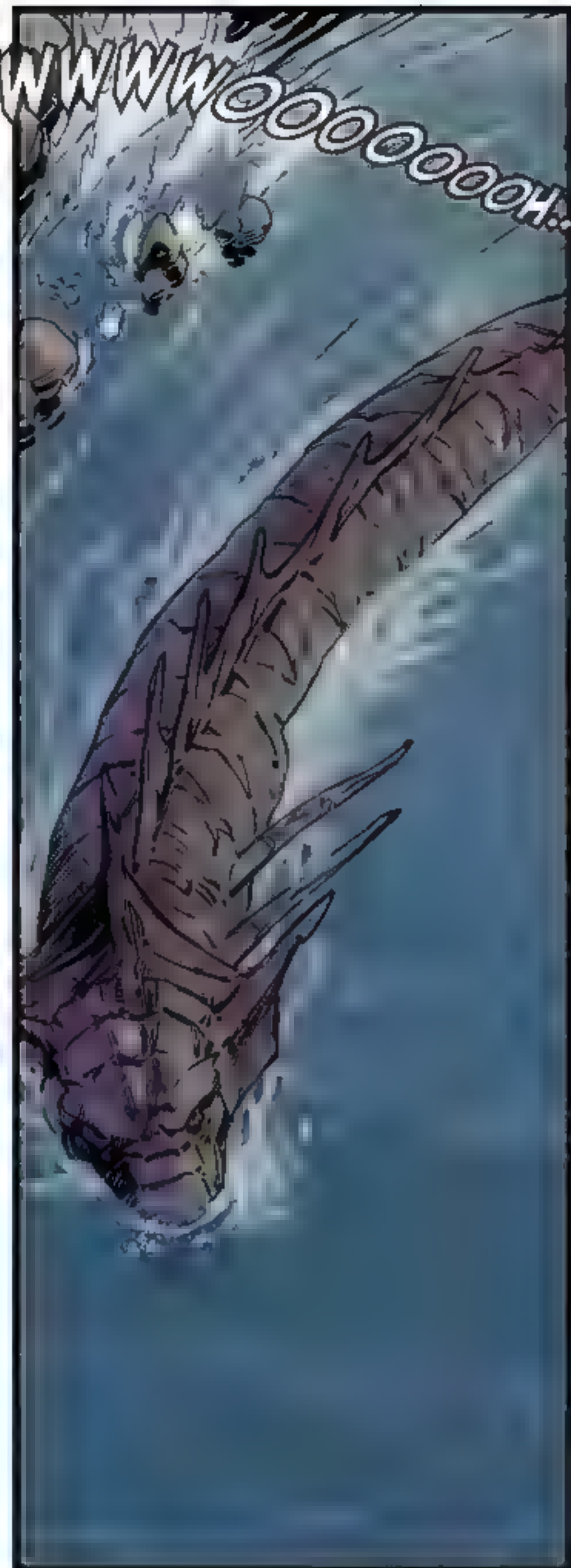
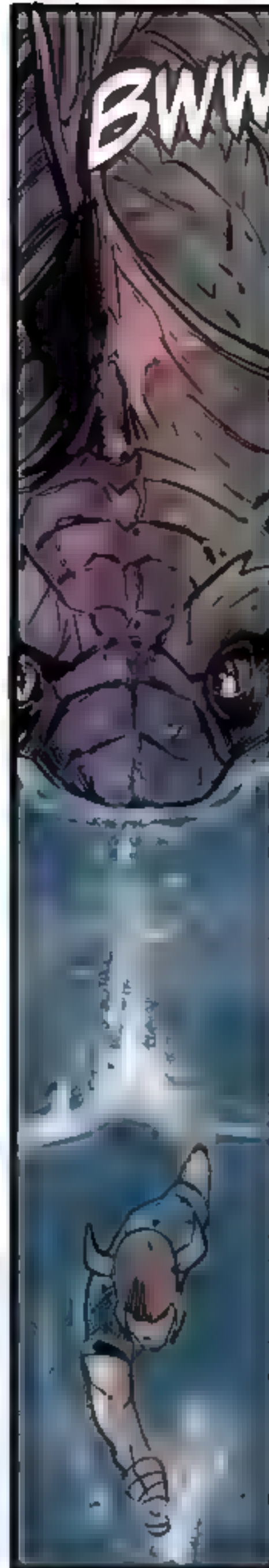
IT'S
LEAVING!
WE'RE SAVED!



DID YOU SEE THAT? EVERY
TIME THE SIREN MAKES THAT
SOUND, THE MONSTER CHANGES
DIRECTION. IT'S ALMOST LIKE
SHE'S CONTROLLING IT...







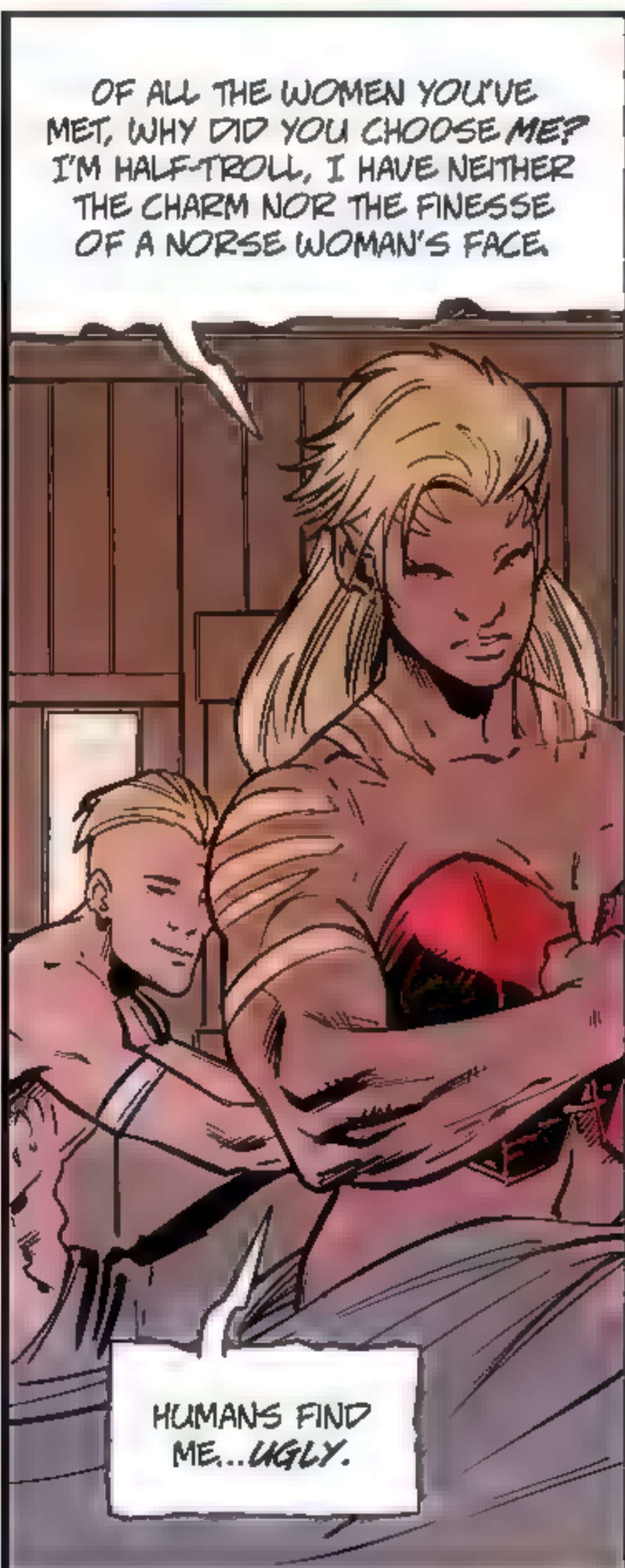
YOU'RE
LETTING THAT
NORSE LIVE?

ONE OF THEM HAS TO SURVIVE TO TELL THE OTHERS
WHAT HE SAW. ONCE HE GETS BACK TO HIS CLAN,
HE'LL SHARE HIS TERROR WITH THE OTHERS... IT WILL
SPREAD THROUGH THE HEARTS OF EVERY NORSE,
AND THEN... THEY WILL FEAR US AGAIN,
JUST LIKE THEIR ANCESTORS DID.



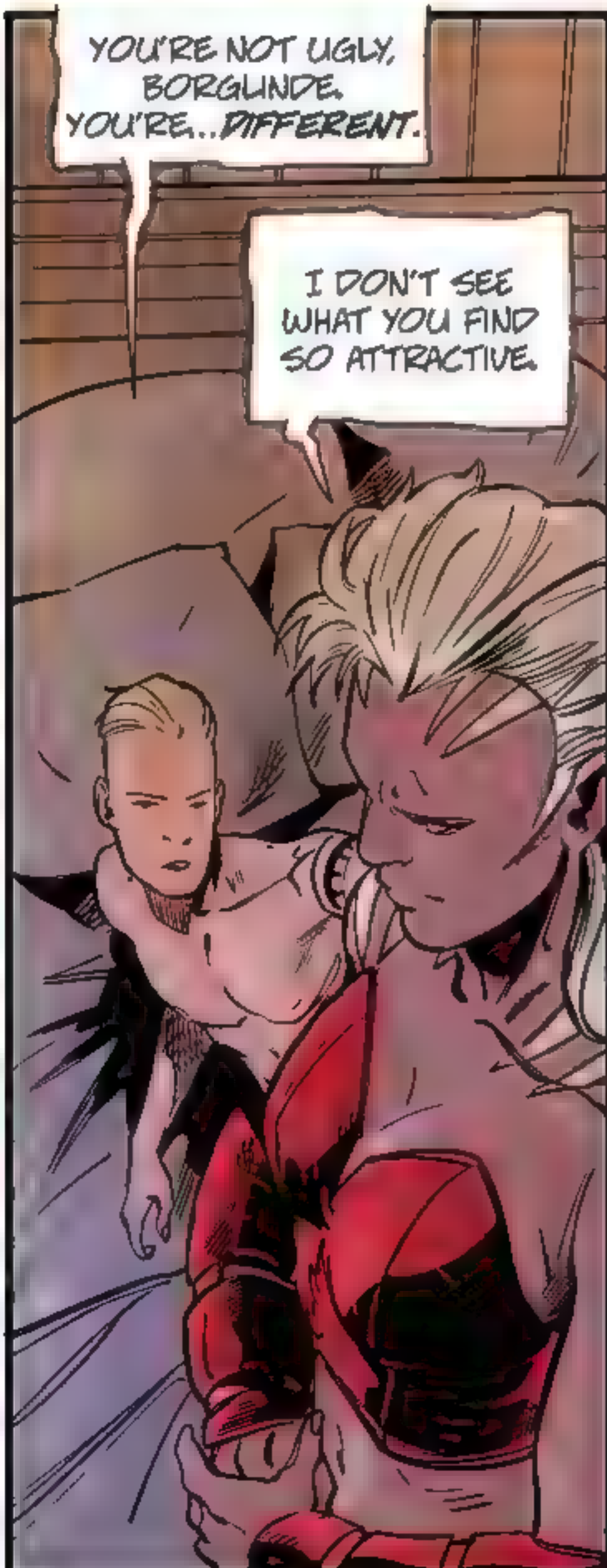


DOES IT BOTHER YOU
WHEN I LOOK AT YOU?



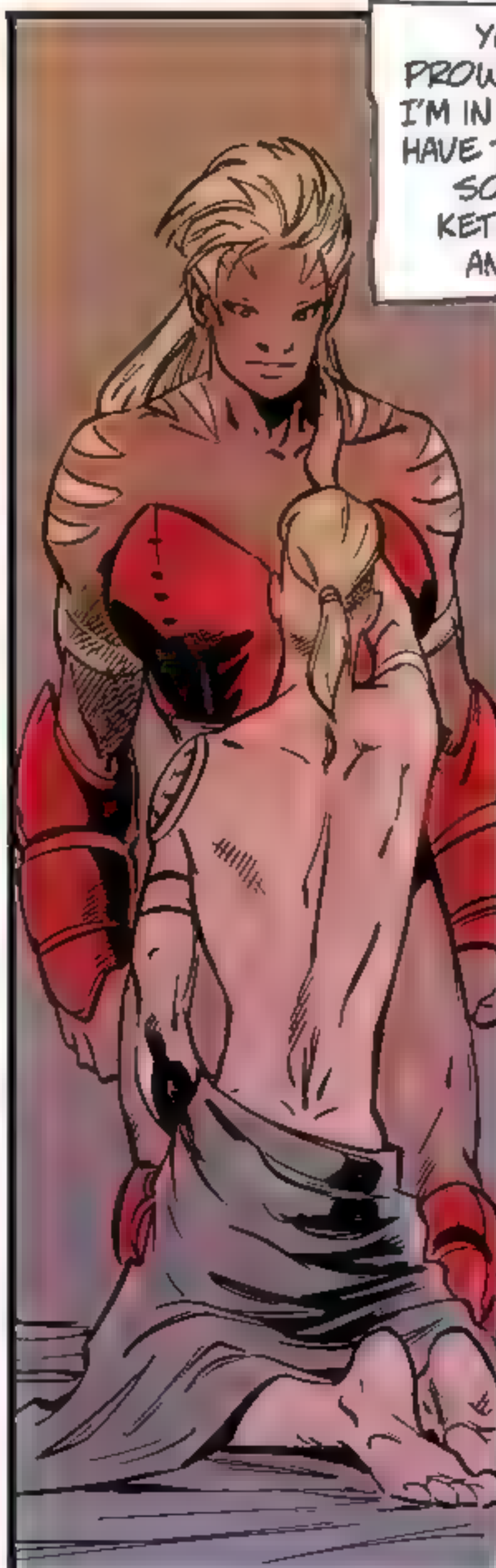
OF ALL THE WOMEN YOU'VE
MET, WHY DID YOU CHOOSE ME?
I'M HALF-TROLL, I HAVE NEITHER
THE CHARM NOR THE FINESSE
OF A NORSE WOMAN'S FACE.

HUMANS FIND
ME...UGLY.



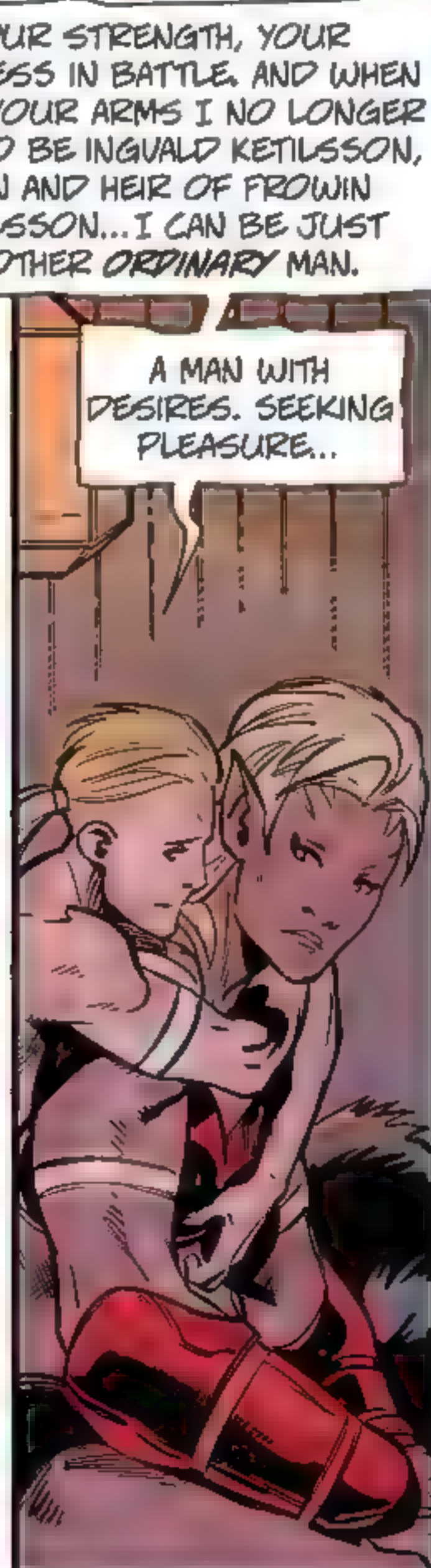
YOU'RE NOT UGLY,
BORGUNDE.
YOU'RE...DIFFERENT.

I DON'T SEE
WHAT YOU FIND
SO ATTRACTIVE.



YOUR STRENGTH, YOUR
PROWESS IN BATTLE, AND WHEN
I'M IN YOUR ARMS I NO LONGER
HAVE TO BE INGVALD KETILSSON,
SON AND HEIR OF FROWIN
KETILSSON... I CAN BE JUST
ANOTHER ORDINARY MAN.

A MAN WITH
DESIRES. SEEKING
PLEASURE...



IS HE DEAD?
MAYBE...

WHAT'S
GOING ON?



CALL THE LOEKNIR!

A GIGANTIC MONSTER! WITH LONG SPIKES ON ITS BACK, CLAWS AND ENORMOUS FANGS. JÖRMUNGANDR!

JÖRMUNGANDR! WHAT? YOU MEAN IT'S REAL?

IT SLAUGHTERED EVERYONE. LIKE IT DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE ANY SURVIVORS. AND THEN... THERE WAS A SIREN... IT WAS AS THOUGH SHE WERE CONTROLLING IT BY BLOWING INTO THIS BIG SHELL.

IF THIS MONSTER IS INDEED REAL, IT'S GOING TO BE VERY DANGEROUS TO SAIL. AND NO MORE SAILING MEANS NO MORE FISHING, NO MORE TRADING-- NO MORE PILLAGING.

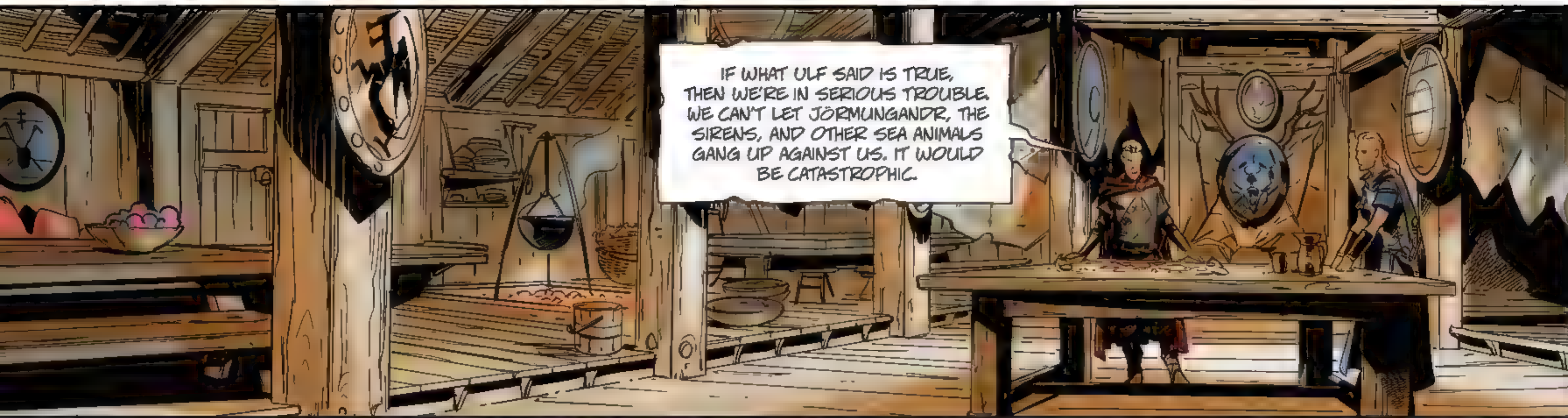
TAKE HIM TO MY HOME. HE NEEDS MY CARE.

HOW WILL WE GET BY?

DON'T WORRY YOURSELF TOO MUCH, KNUIT. ULF ALMOST DIED. HE'S PROBABLY JUST IN SHOCK FROM HAVING LOST HIS ENTIRE CREW.

EVERYBODY GO HOME. I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

COME, MY SON. WE HAVE TO ACT, FAST!



IF WHAT ULF SAID IS TRUE, THEN WE'RE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE. WE CAN'T LET JÖRMUNGANDR, THE SIRENS, AND OTHER SEA ANIMALS GANG UP AGAINST US. IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC.



IF WE KNEW MORE ABOUT THIS MONSTER, WE COULD PROBABLY FIGURE OUT A WAY TO GET RID OF IT...

MAYBE THE TROLLS CAN HELP US AND FIND A WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE HAVFRUES TO APPEASE TENSIONS. TOO MANY OF OUR PEOPLE DIED.

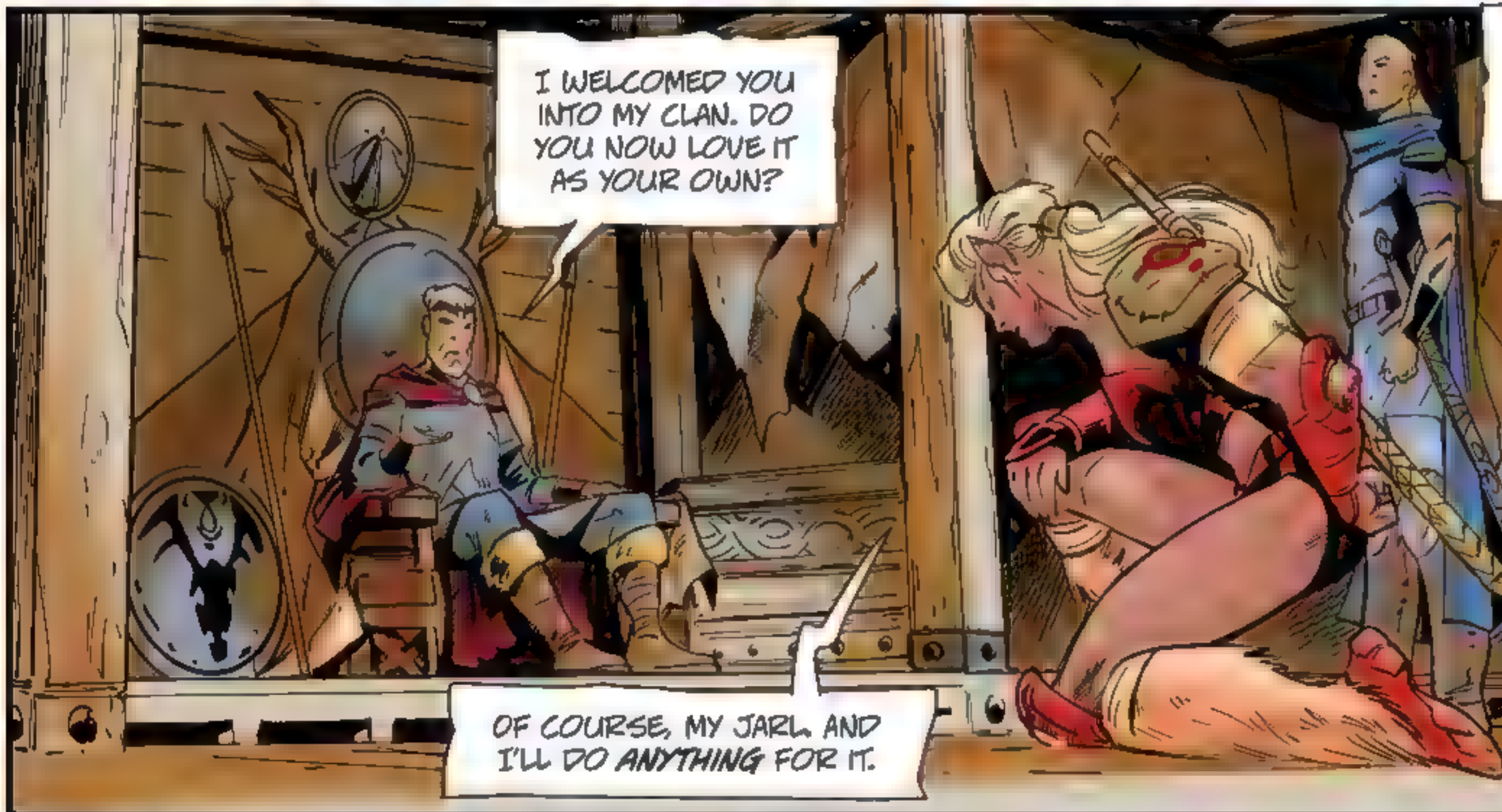


THEIR SPECIES HAS THE BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE GODS AND MAGIC.



LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT. SEND FOR BORGLINDE.

BUT I DOUBT WE CAN CO-EXIST IN HARMONY WITH THESE SEA ABOMINATIONS.



I WELCOMED YOU INTO MY CLAN. DO YOU NOW LOVE IT AS YOUR OWN?

OF COURSE, MY JARL AND I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR IT.



THEN I'M GOING TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR THAT WILL CERTAINLY COST YOU. YOU MUST GO TO THE TROLL VILLAGE.

I KNOW YOU HAVEN'T BEEN BACK THERE IN MANY YEARS, AND IT'S THE LAST PLACE YOU WANT TO GO, BUT THIS MISSION IS CRUCIAL. AND IT MUST BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

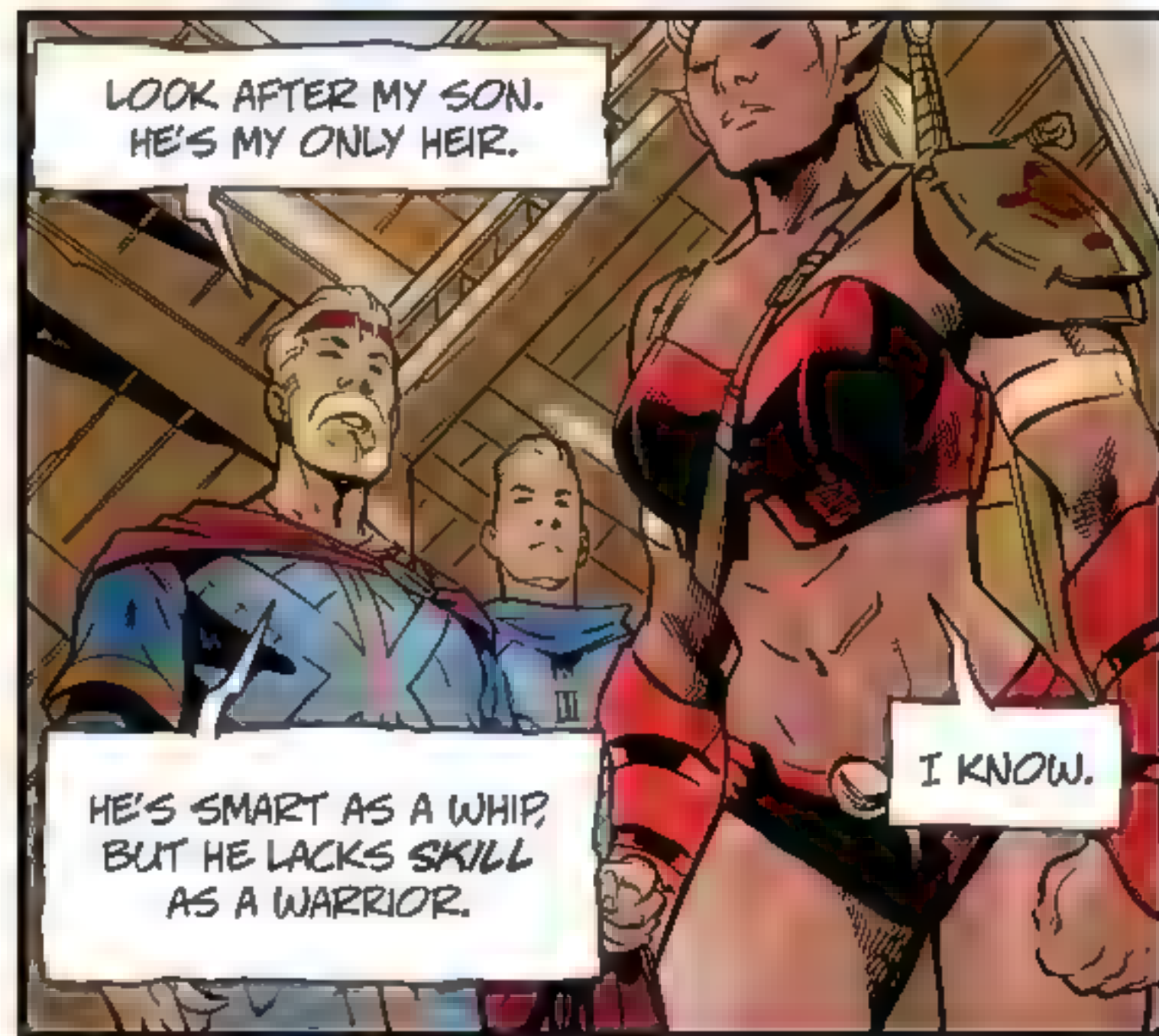


I WOULD SOONER DIE THAN REVEAL OUR SECRETS.



VERY GOOD. IN THAT CASE, YOU AND INGVALD WILL LEAVE TOMORROW TO FIND OUT HOW TO KILL JÖRMUNGANDR.

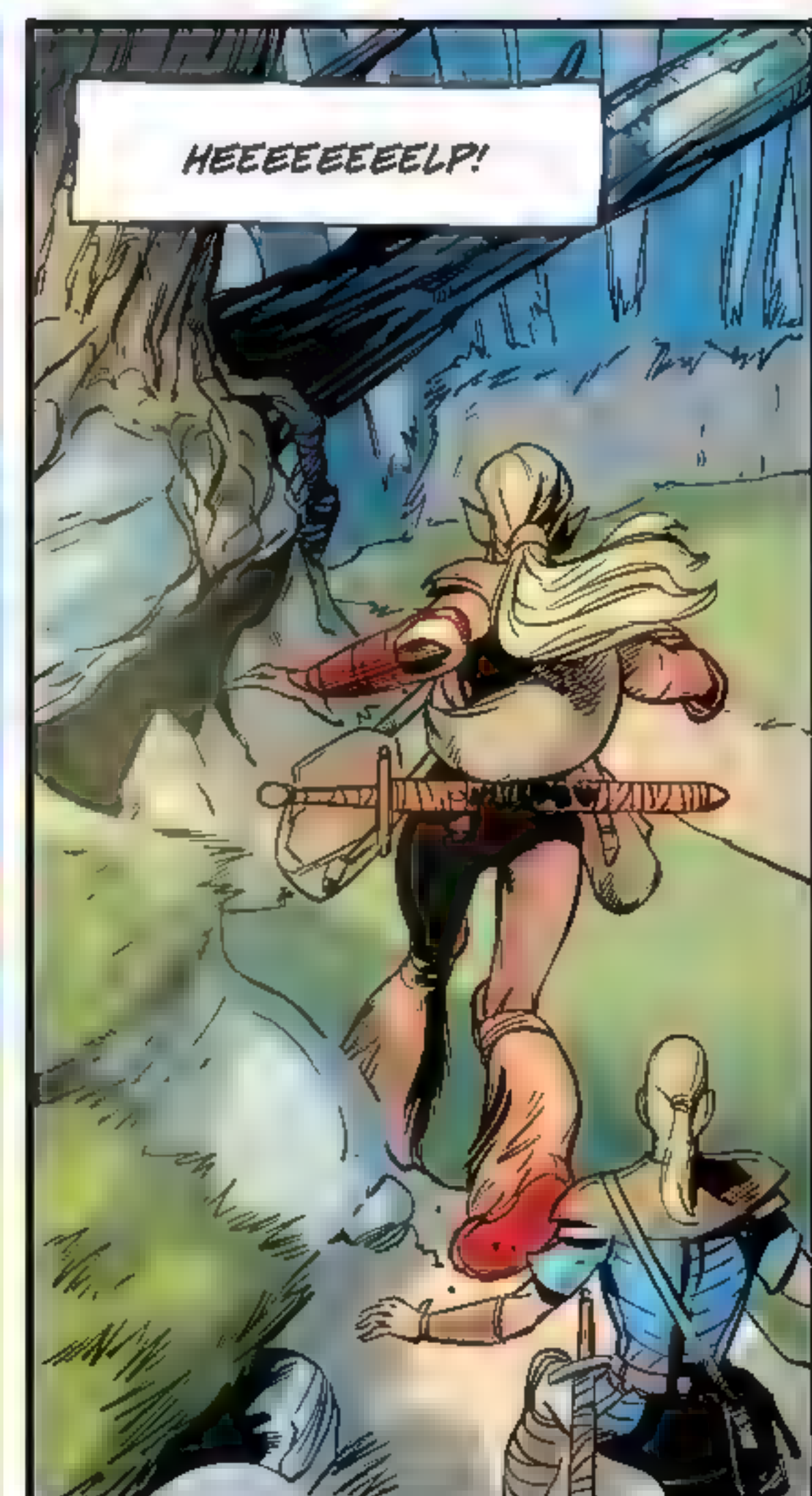
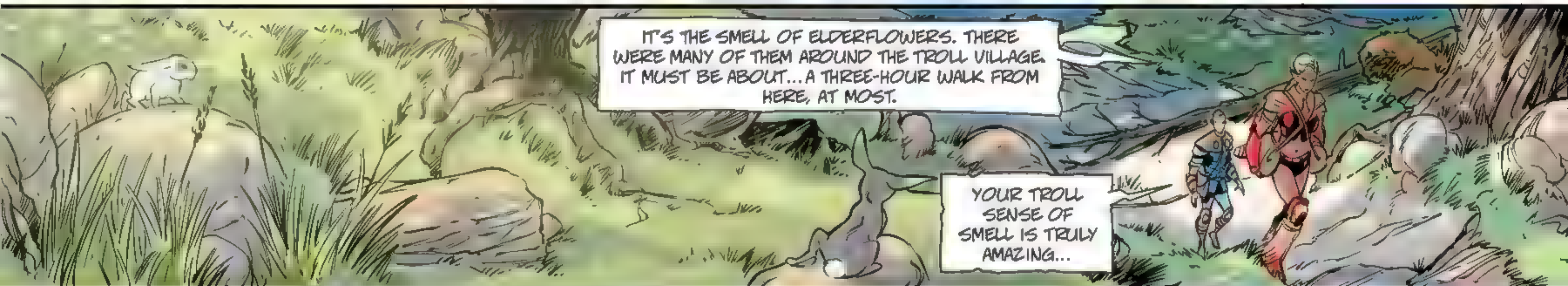
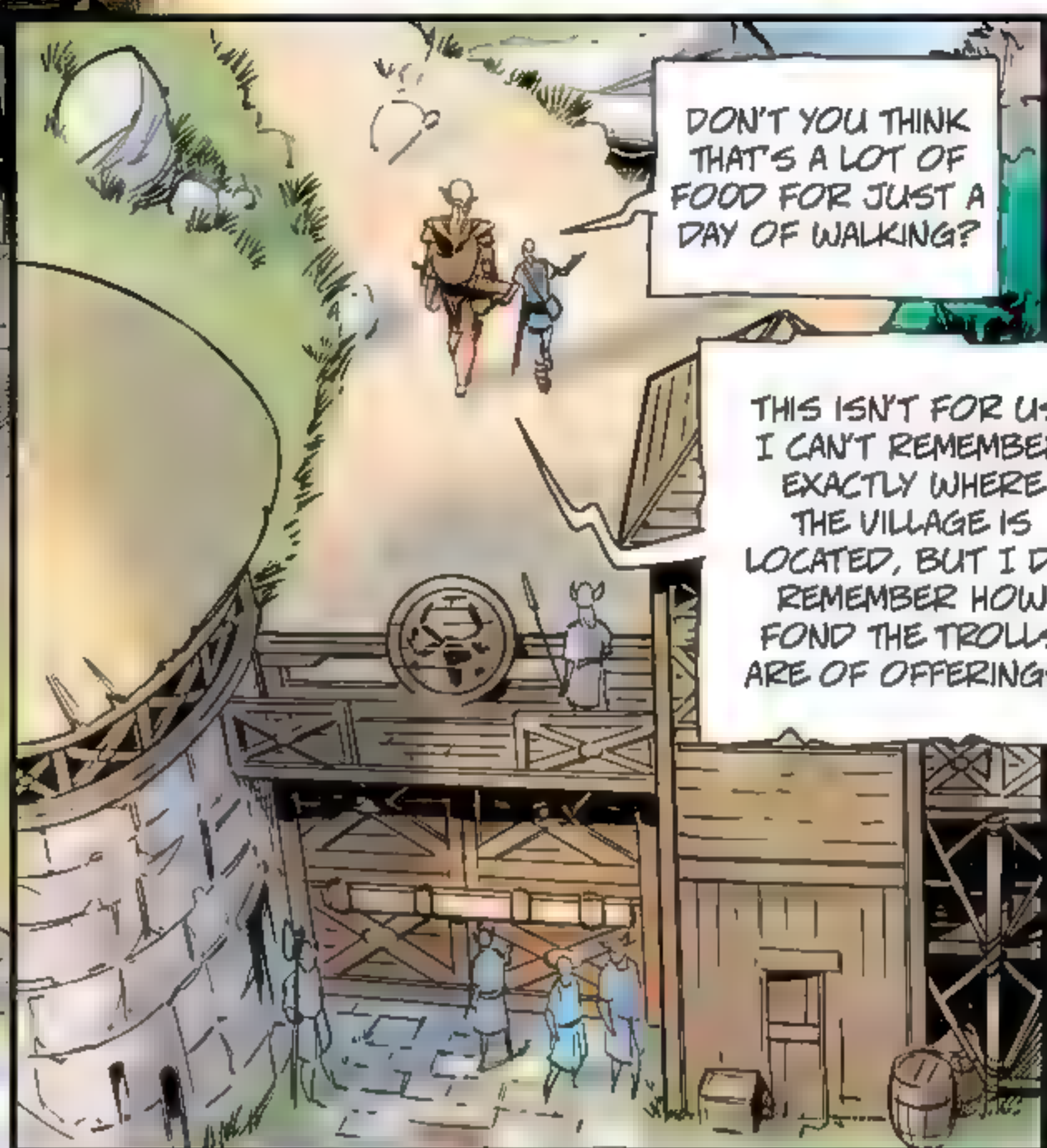
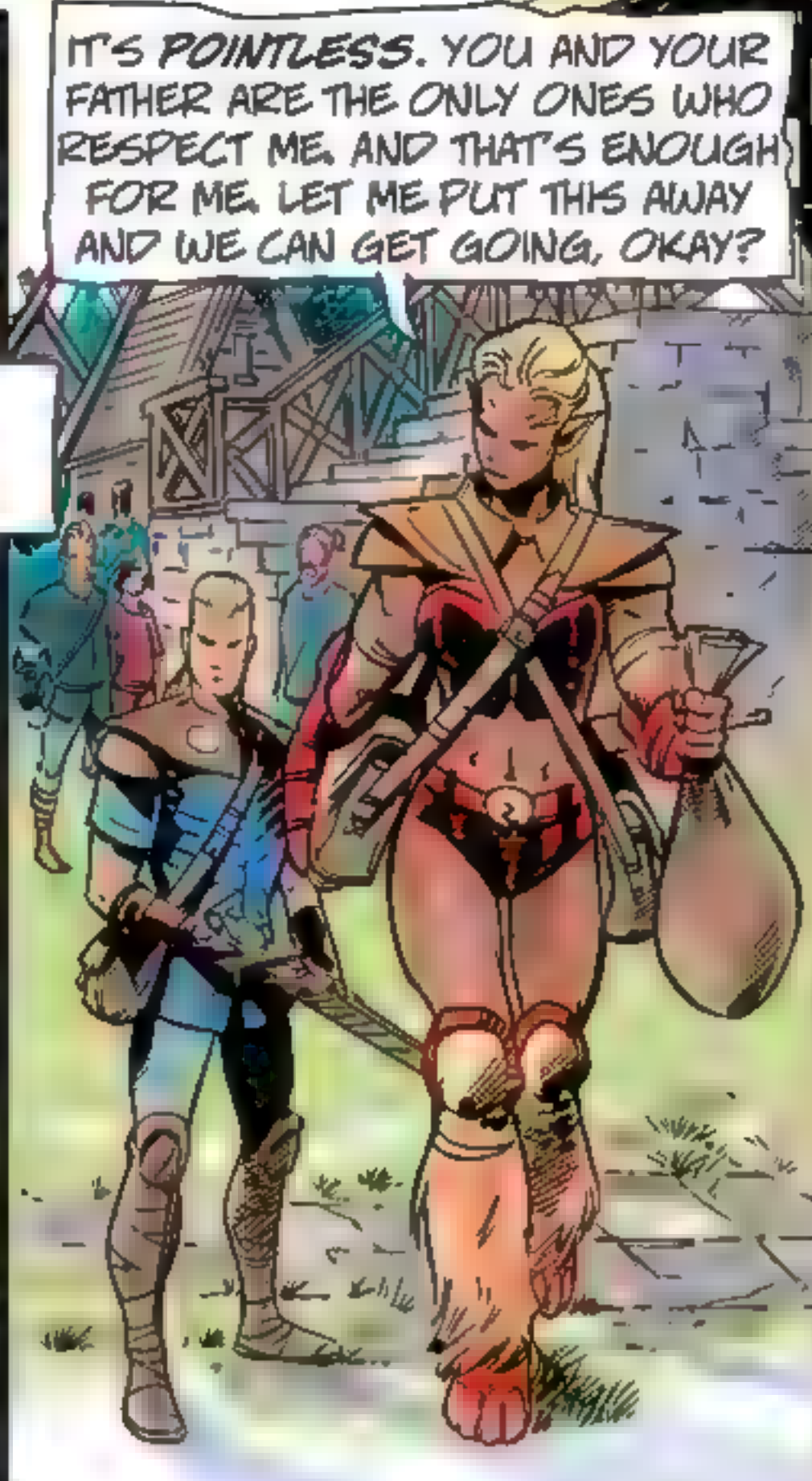
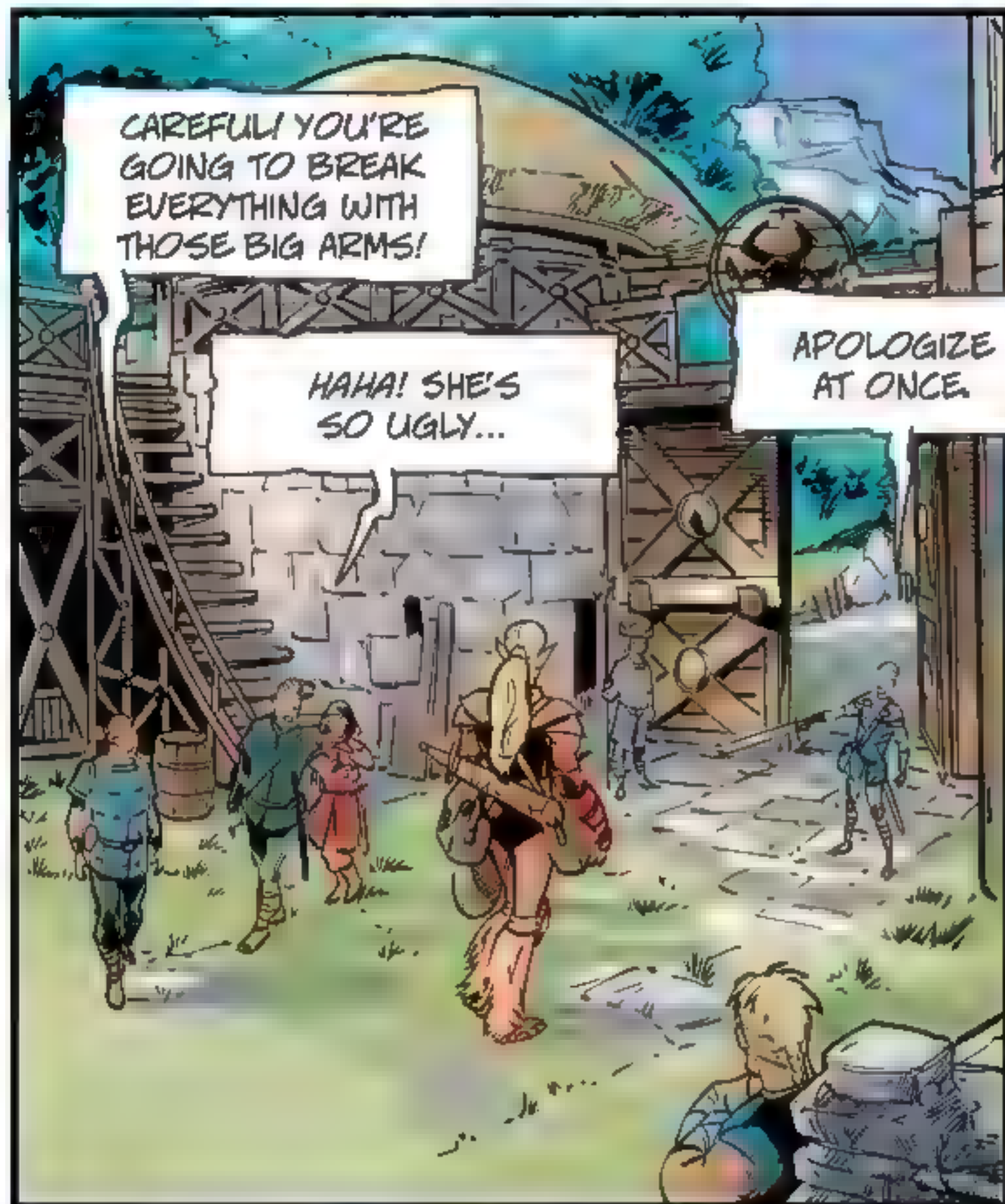
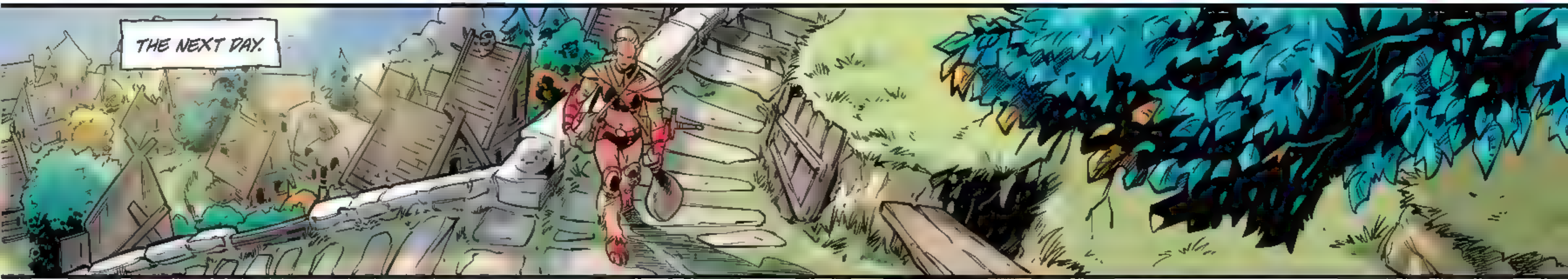
I WON'T RETURN WITHOUT THE ANSWER.



LOOK AFTER MY SON. HE'S MY ONLY HEIR.

HE'S SMART AS A WHIP, BUT HE LACKS SKILL AS A WARRIOR.

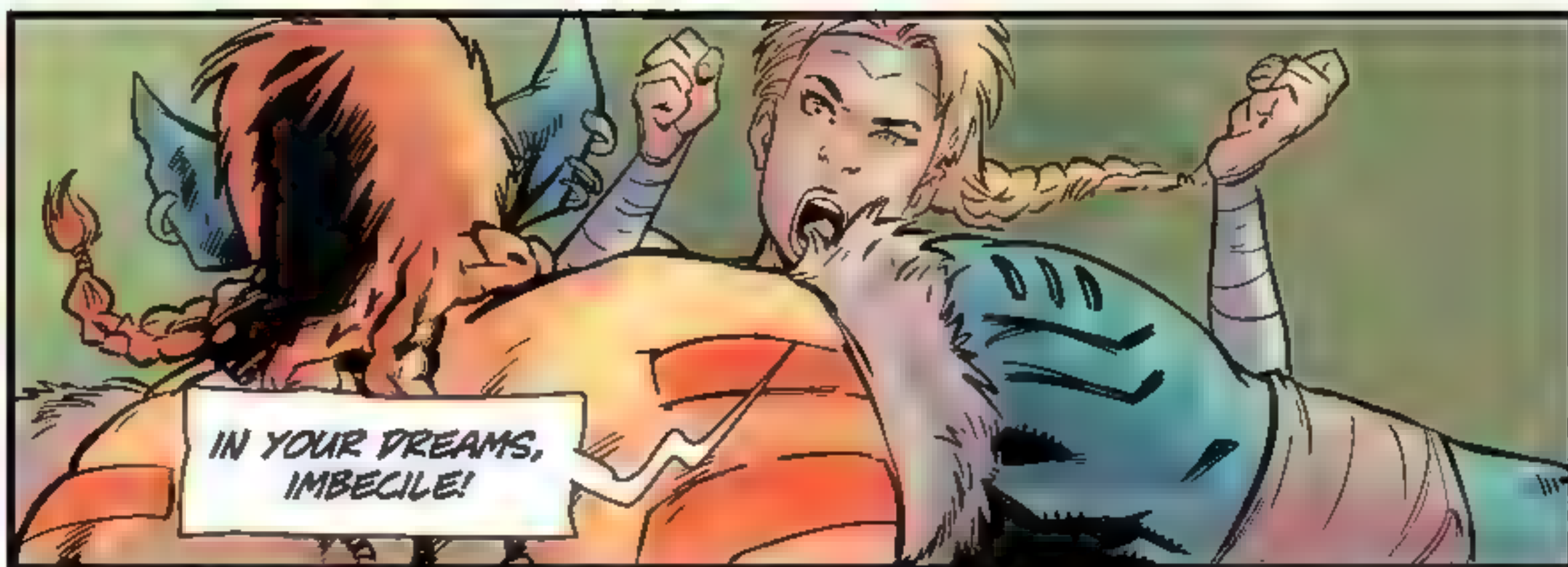
I KNOW.



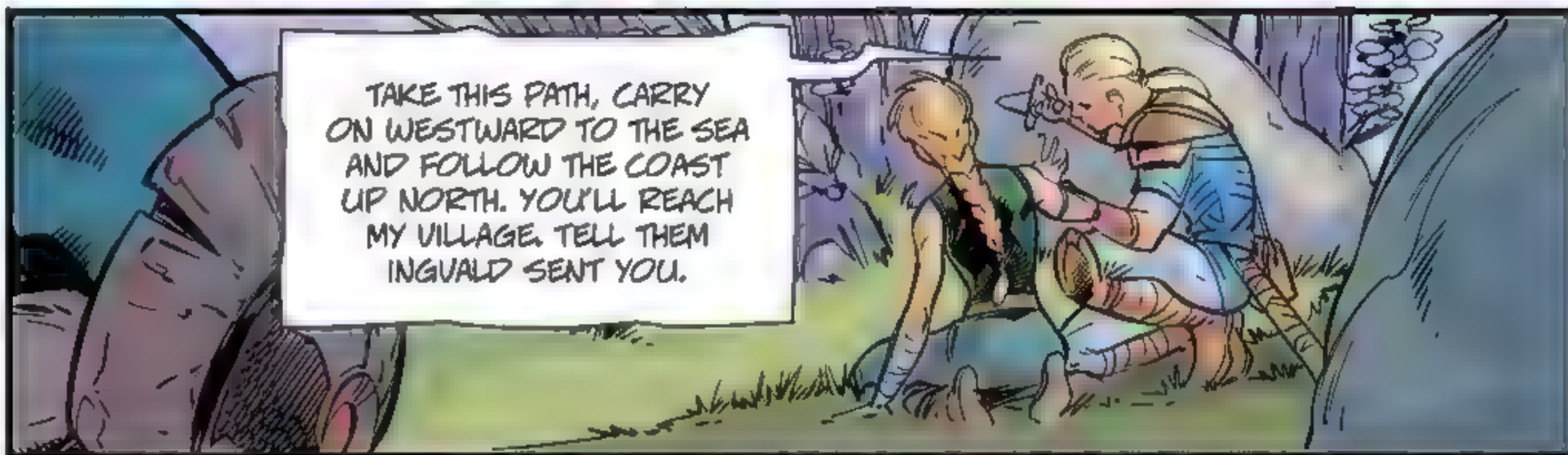


GET OFF ME, YOU
BIG DUMMY!

BUT HONEY, I
THOUGHT...



IN YOUR DREAMS,
IMBECILE!



TAKE THIS PATH, CARRY
ON WESTWARD TO THE SEA
AND FOLLOW THE COAST
UP NORTH. YOU'LL REACH
MY VILLAGE. TELL THEM
INGVALD SENT YOU.



ARE YOU REALLY ATTACKING ME TO DEFEND
A NORSE? DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT THESE
PEOPLE DESPISE YOU? THEY'LL GET RID
OF YOU THE FIRST CHANCE THEY GET.

FEW NORSE RESPECT
ME, BUT ALL TROLLS
DESPISE ME.



YOU'RE WRONG. MAYBE THOSE
IN THE VILLAGE DON'T RESPECT YOU,
BUT THERE'S A CAMP IN THE MIDDLE
OF THE FOREST WHERE WE DON'T
JUDGE OTHERS. WE'RE FREE.
YOU COULD JOIN US.

YOU HAVE YOUR
ANSWER. GET ON YOUR
WAY BEFORE I DECIDE
TO PUNISH YOU FOR
YOUR CRIMES.

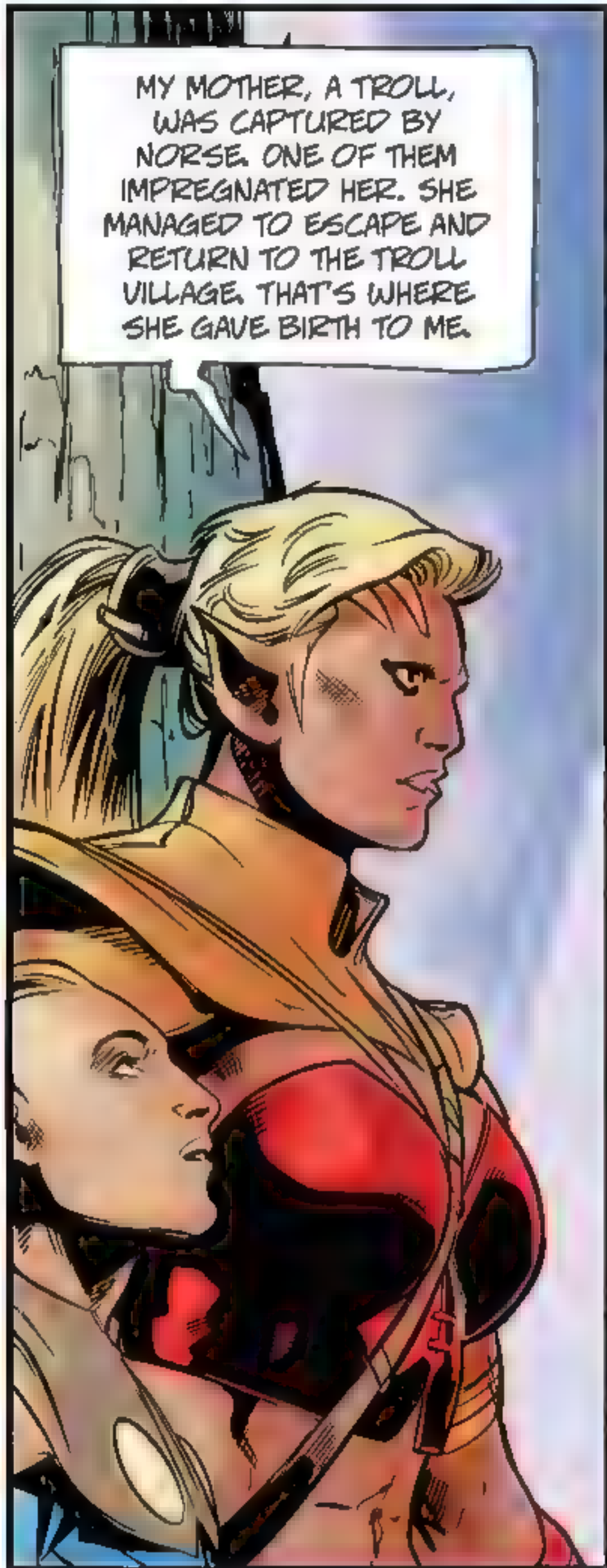


NEVER GET TOO
COCKY WITH A TROLL.



WHY HAVEN'T YOU EVER TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR VILLAGE?

IT WASN'T EXACTLY THE BEST PART OF MY LIFE.

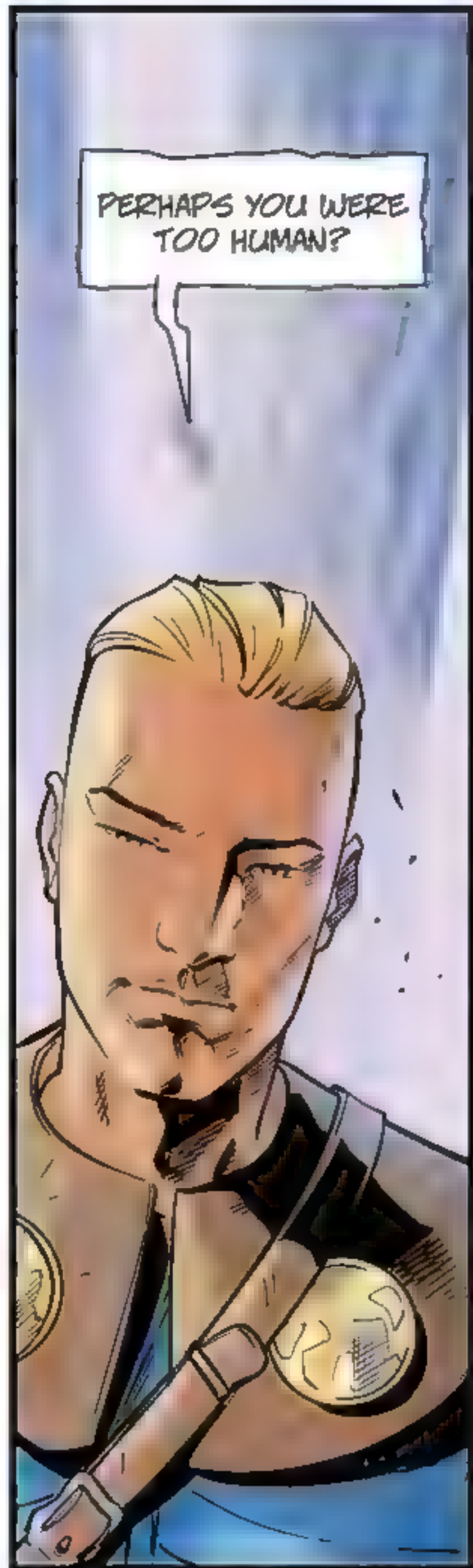


MY MOTHER, A TROLL, WAS CAPTURED BY NORSE. ONE OF THEM IMPREGNATED HER. SHE MANAGED TO ESCAPE AND RETURN TO THE TROLL VILLAGE. THAT'S WHERE SHE GAVE BIRTH TO ME.



BUT AS I GREW UP, I BECAME DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE.

THE TROLLS ALWAYS THOUGHT I WAS TOO SMALL, TOO FRAGILE, TOO SENTIMENTAL.



PERHAPS YOU WERE TOO HUMAN?

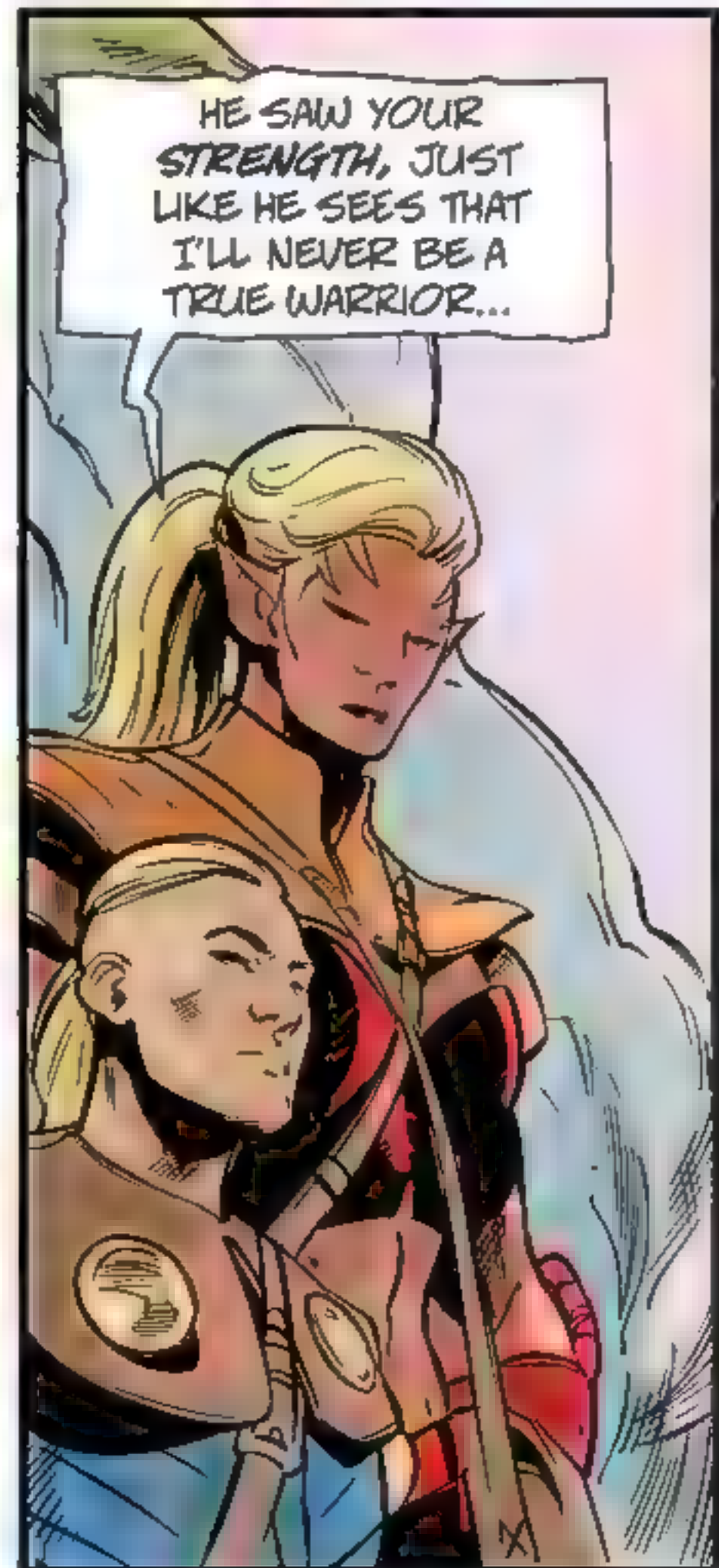


PERHAPS...IN ANY CASE, IT WAS UNBEARABLE. SO, I LEFT. THAT'S WHEN I RAN INTO YOUR NORSE CLAN LOOTING A VILLAGE. THEY WERE KILLING, RAPING, DRINKING... SOME DRUNK MEN STARTED HITTING ME. I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO FIGHT BACK THEN. I THOUGHT I WOULD DIE.

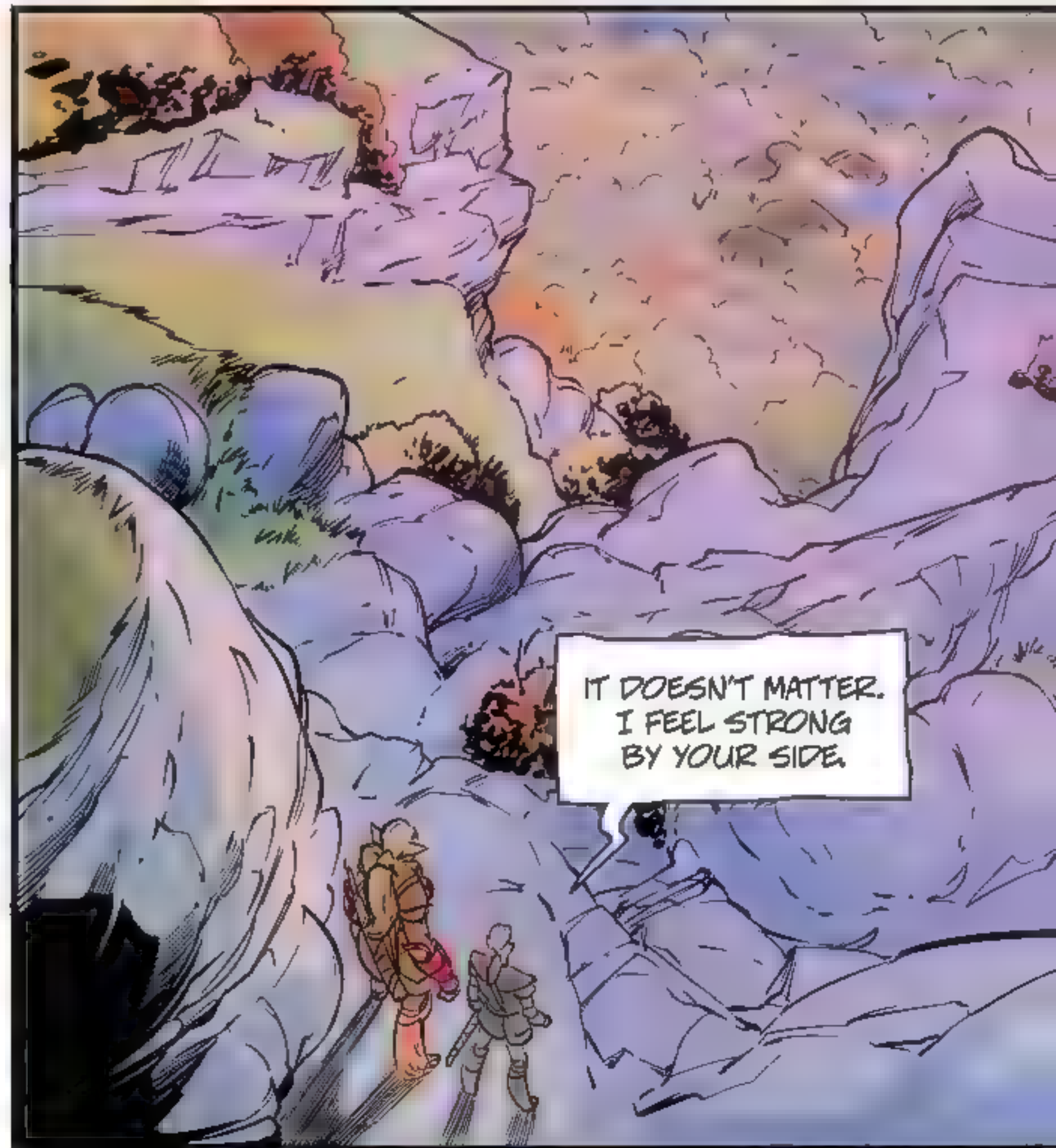
I HAD NO IDEA YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THAT.



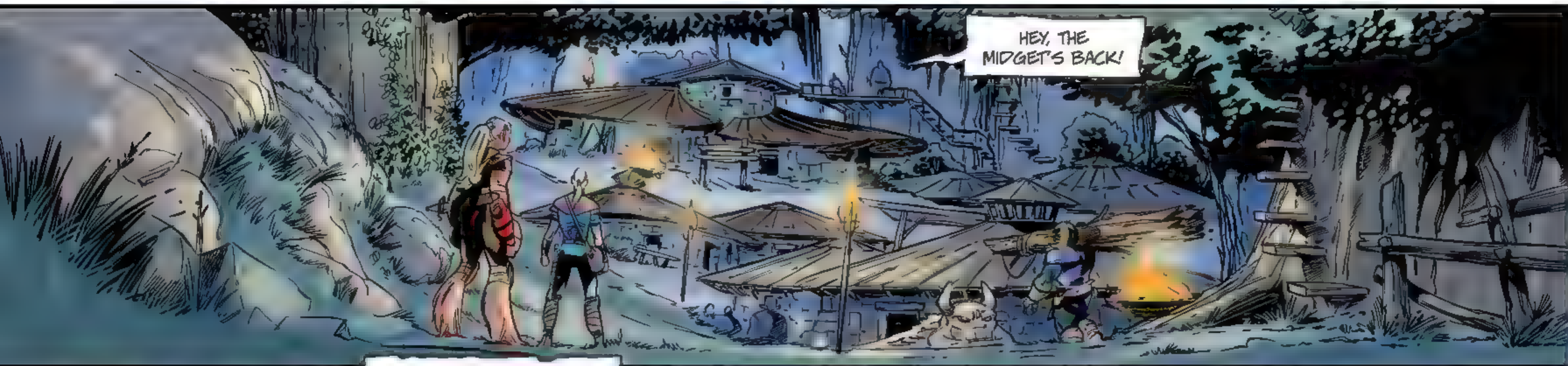
IT'S ALL IN THE PAST. WHAT MATTERS TO ME IS THAT YOUR FATHER SAVED MY LIFE AND ALLOWED ME TO BECOME A WARRIOR.



HE SAW YOUR STRENGTH, JUST LIKE HE SEES THAT I'LL NEVER BE A TRUE WARRIOR...



IT DOESN'T MATTER. I FEEL STRONG BY YOUR SIDE.

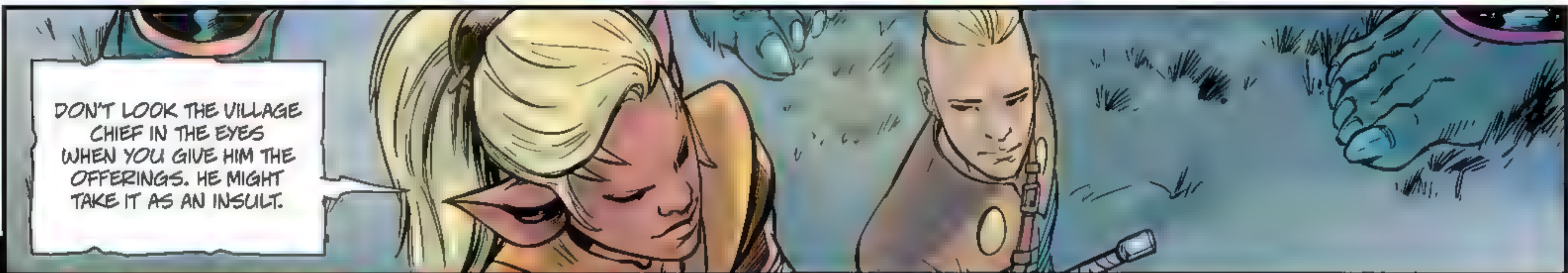


HEY, THE
MIDGET'S BACK!

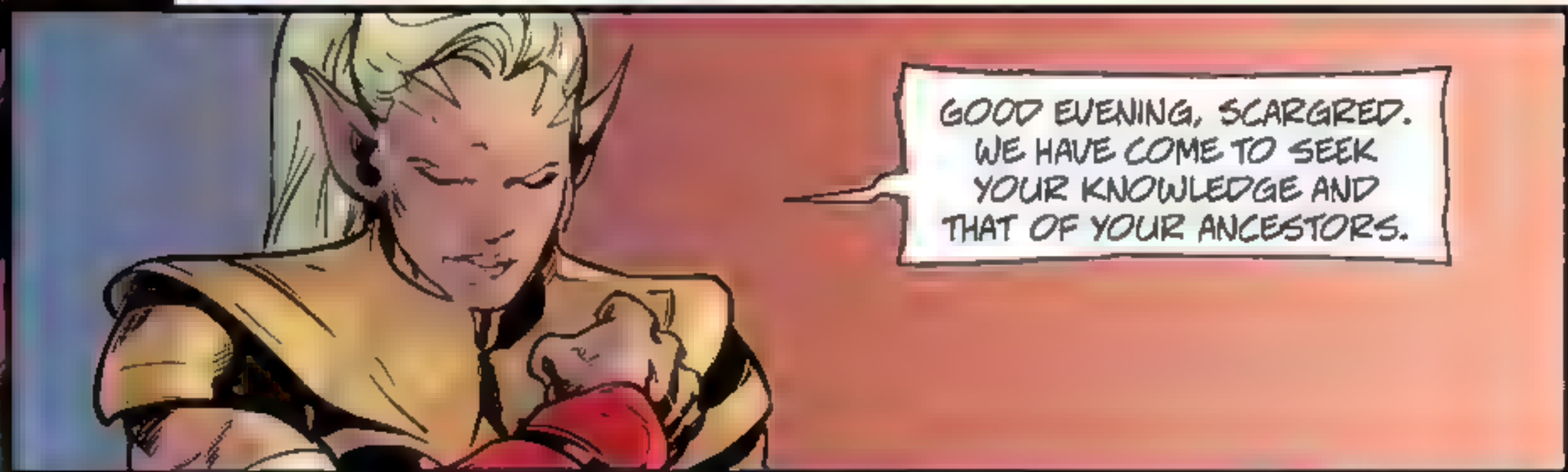


WELL, LOOK AT THAT, SHE
HASN'T GROWN AN INCH!

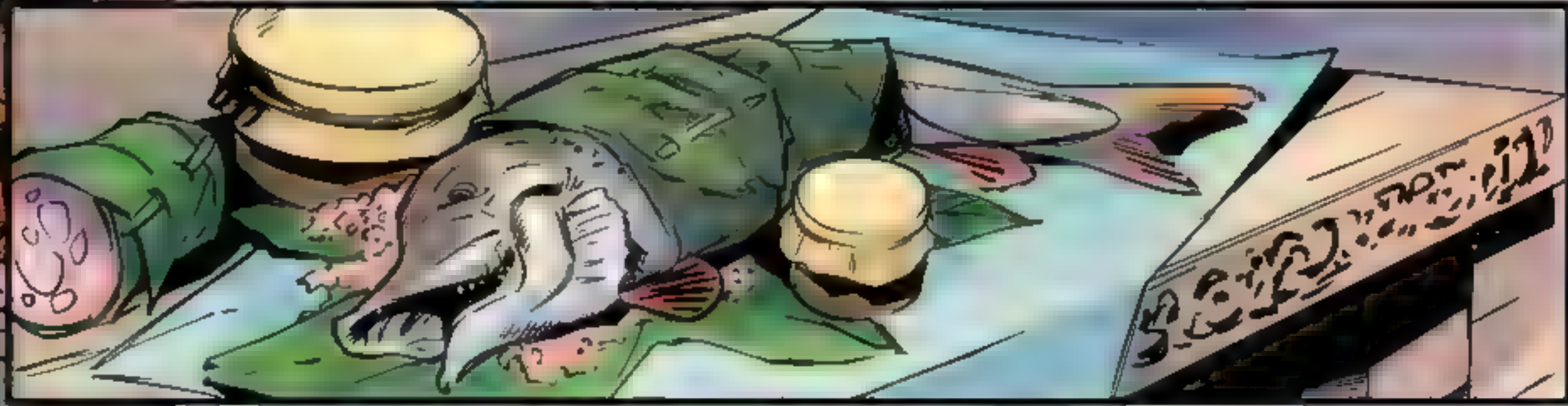
I'LL SAY, MAYBE IT'S TIME YOU
HAD SOME VEGETABLES! HAHA!



DON'T LOOK THE VILLAGE
CHIEF IN THE EYES
WHEN YOU GIVE HIM THE
OFFERINGS. HE MIGHT
TAKE IT AS AN INSULT.



GOOD EVENING, SCARGRED.
WE HAVE COME TO SEEK
YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND
THAT OF YOUR ANCESTORS.



PIKE IS MY FAVORITE FISH. YOU HAVE
A VERY GOOD MEMORY, BORGLINDE.
DO YOU MISS THE VILLAGE MORE
THAN YOU'D LIKE TO ADMIT?



INGVALD, SON OF JARL FROWIN, WOULD LIKE SOME INFORMATION ABOUT JÖRMUNGANDR.

IT ATTACKED ONE OF OUR SHIPS. ONLY ONE MAN MANAGED TO ESCAPE.



WELL, THAT'S UNFORTUNATE. IF JÖRMUNGANDR IS RELEASED, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SAIL ANYMORE.



DID YOUR ANCESTORS KNOW HOW TO DEFEAT THIS SEA MONSTER?



SOMETIMES, TO HELP ME SLEEP AT NIGHT, MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER WOULD TELL ME THAT JÖRMUNGANDR HAD BEEN CONFINED TO THE DEPTHS OF THE OCEANS FOR MORE THAN THREE OR FOUR HUNDRED YEARS. THAT WAS SO LONG AGO... I DOUBT ANYONE STILL KNOWS HOW TO DEFEAT SUCH A MONSTER.

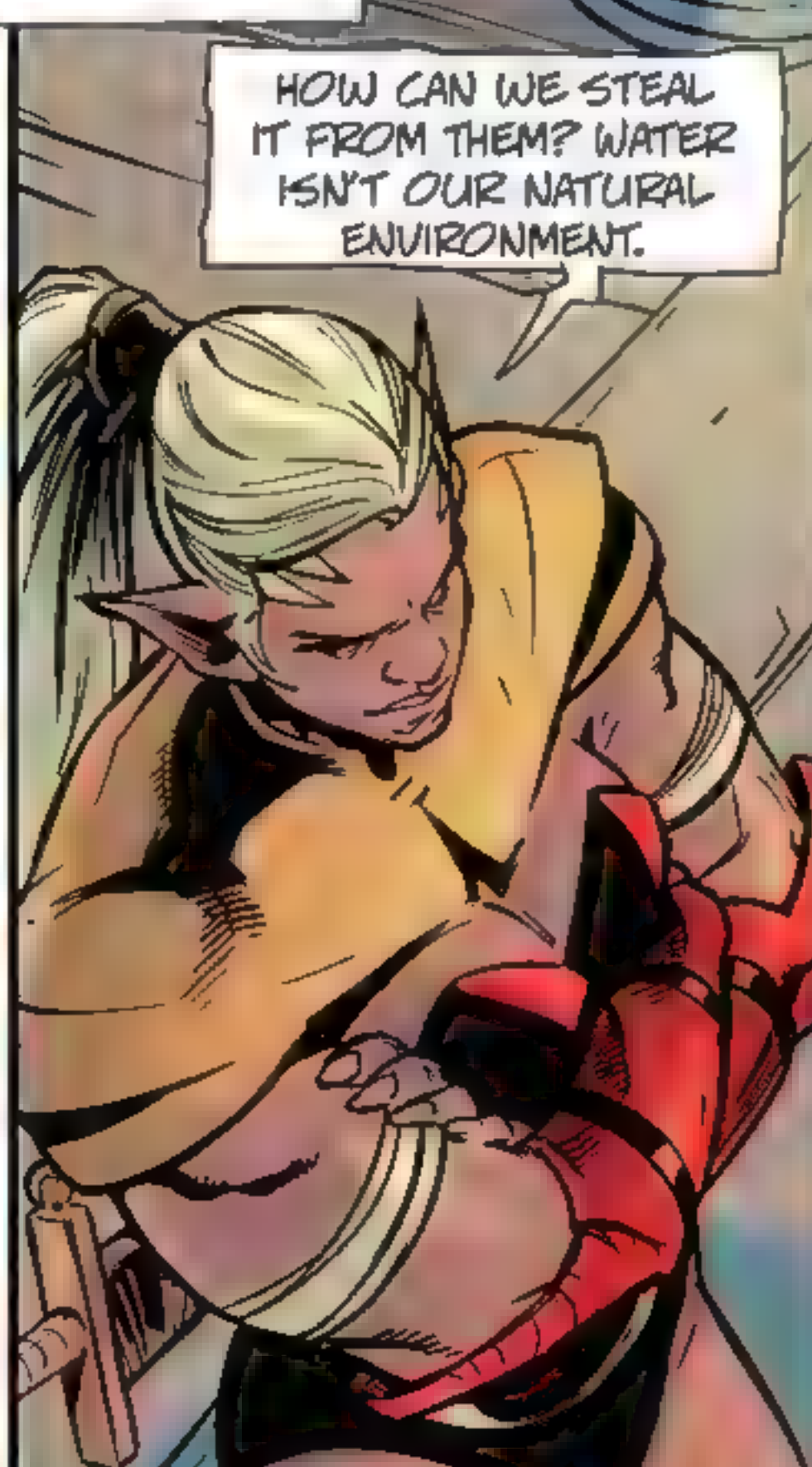
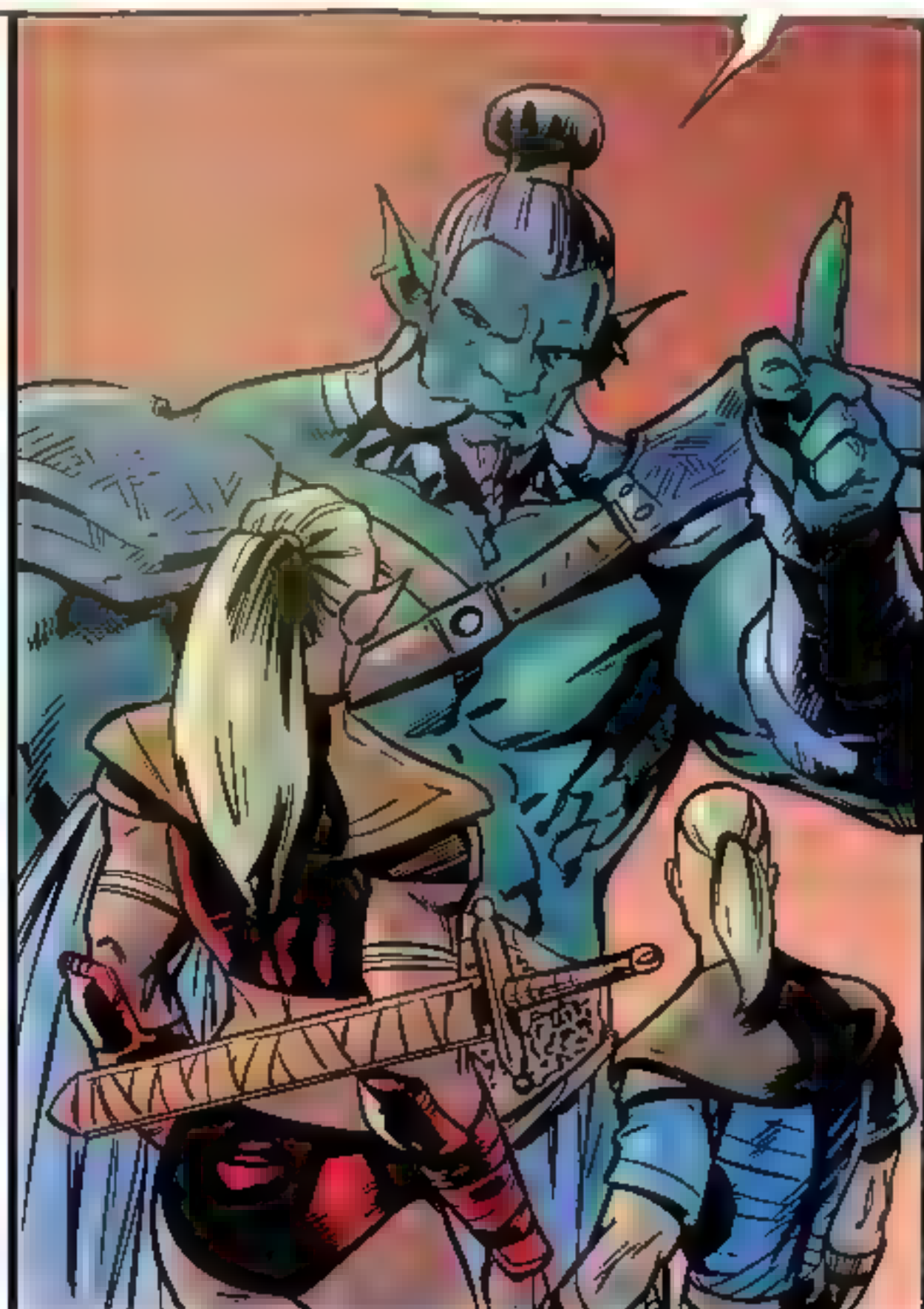
A SIREN WAS CONTROLLING IT BY BLOWING INTO A SHELL.



WHAT?!

THANK YOU, SCARGRED. YOU'VE BEEN A GREAT HELP TO US.

ONE QUESTION AT A TIME, DEAR BORGLUNDE... THE SURFACE ISN'T JÖRMUNGANDR'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, EITHER. AND THAT'S ITS WEAKNESS... COME BACK WITH MORE PIKES AND THE SOLUTION WILL BECOME APPARENT. YOU'LL SEE.



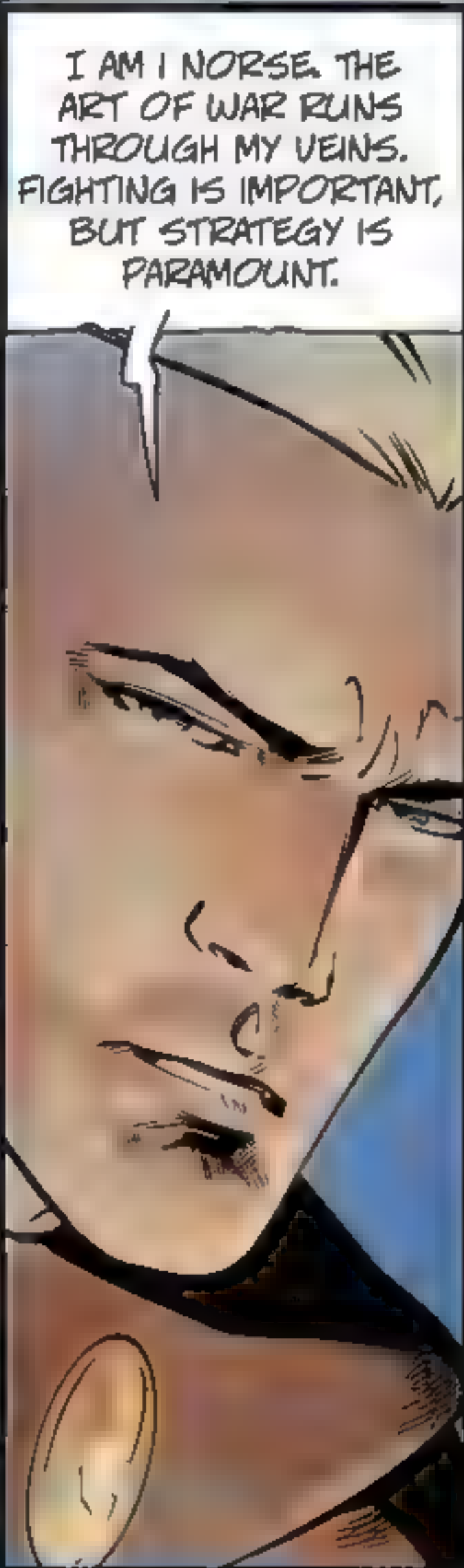
HOW CAN WE STEAL IT FROM THEM? WATER ISN'T OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.



WHAT ARE
YOU SMILING
ABOUT?



I THINK I HAVE
AN IDEA IN ORDER
TO GET THE
CONCH BACK, OR
AT LEAST TO
DISORIENT THE
MONSTER.



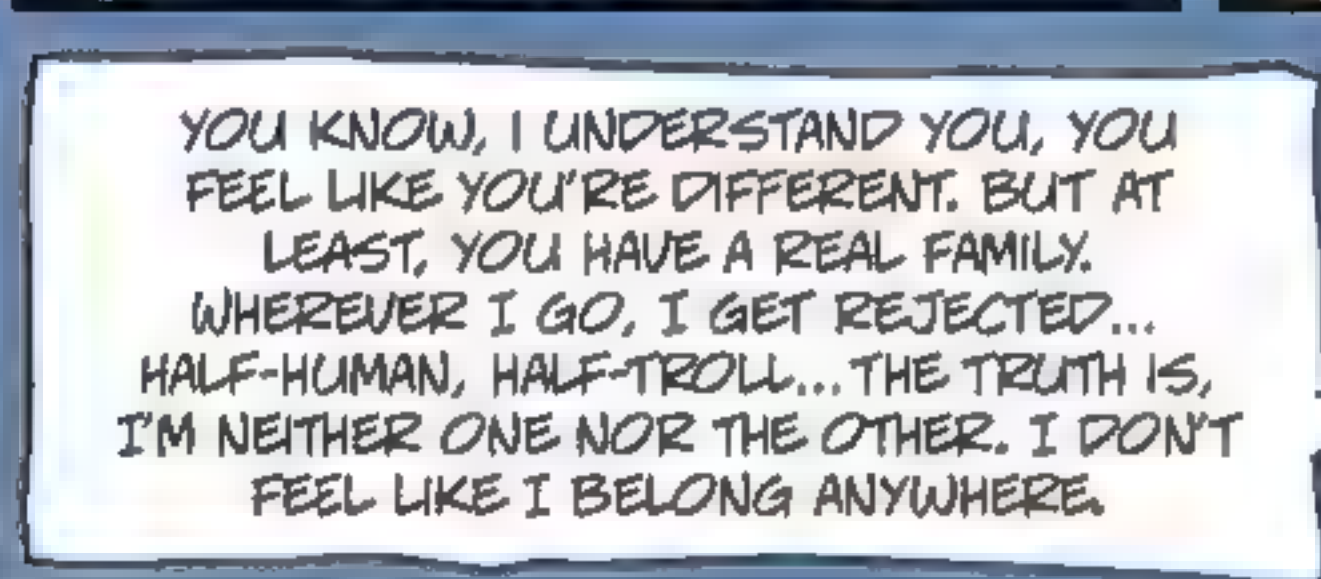
I AM I NORSE. THE
ART OF WAR RUNS
THROUGH MY VEINS.
FIGHTING IS IMPORTANT,
BUT STRATEGY IS
PARAMOUNT.



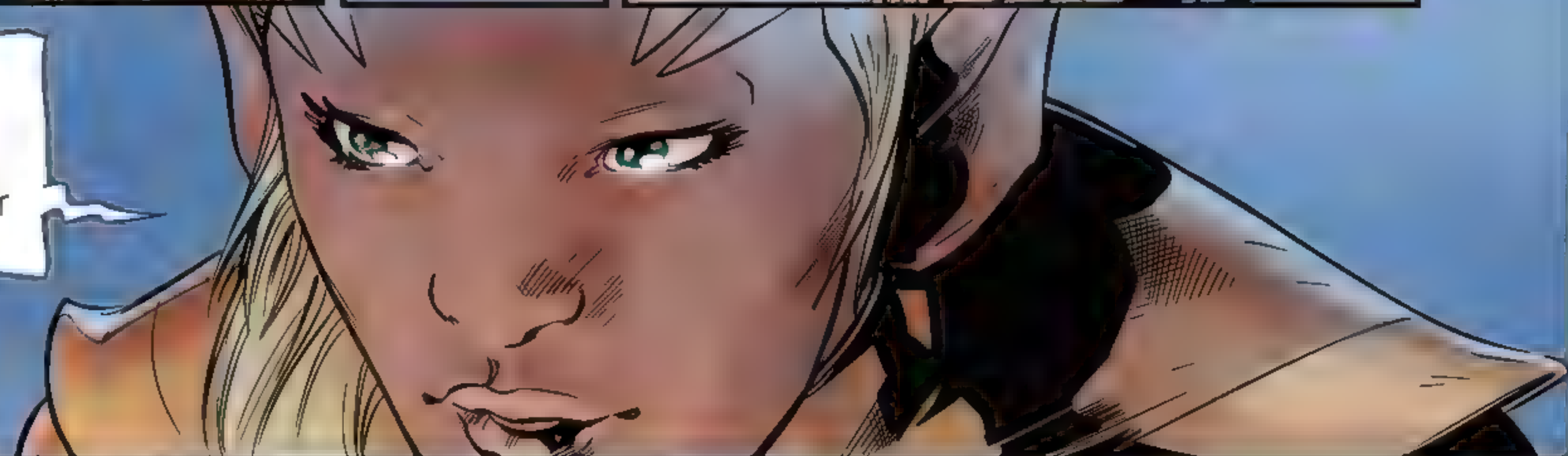
I KNOW THAT MY
FATHER DOESN'T
BELIEVE IN MY
SUCCESS. I
SOMETIMES FEEL
LIKE A MEDIOCRE
WARRIOR.



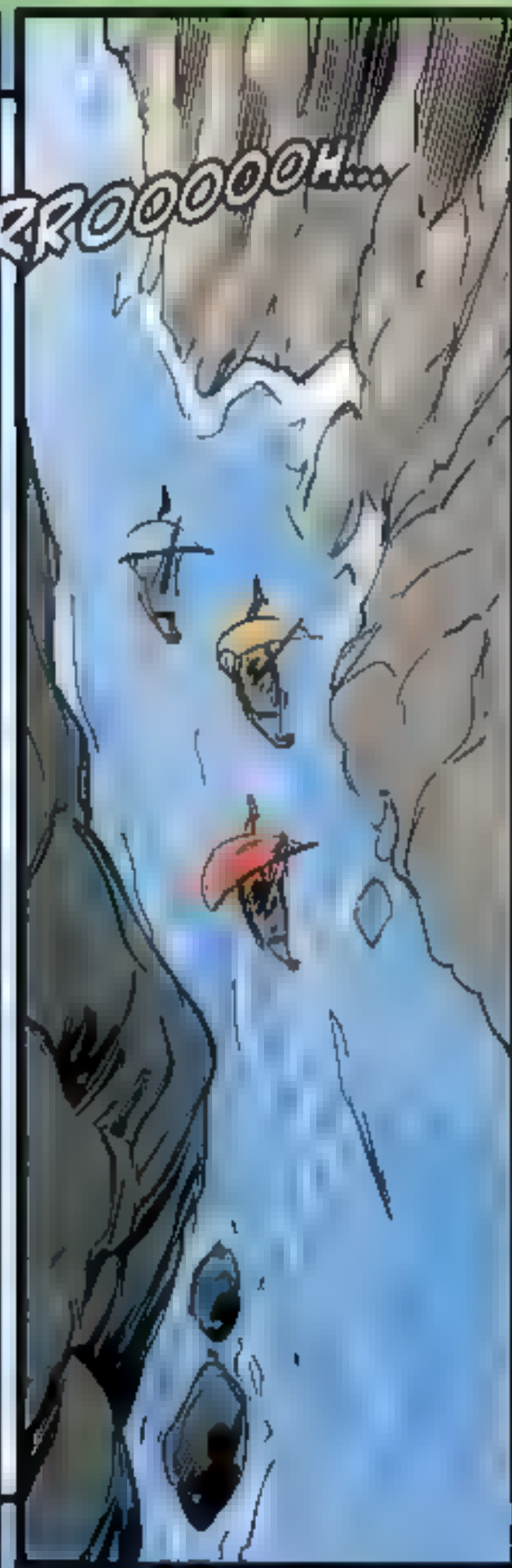
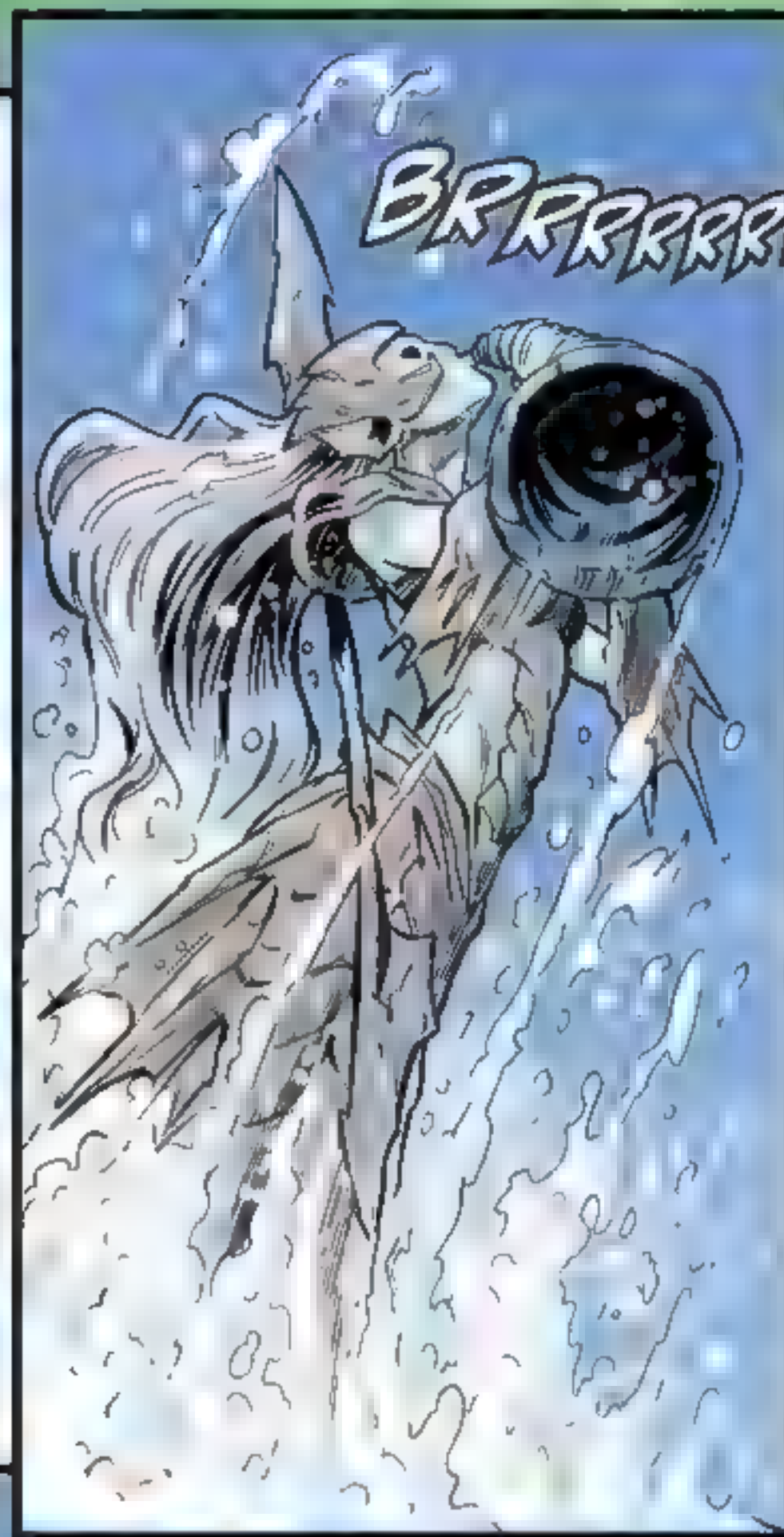
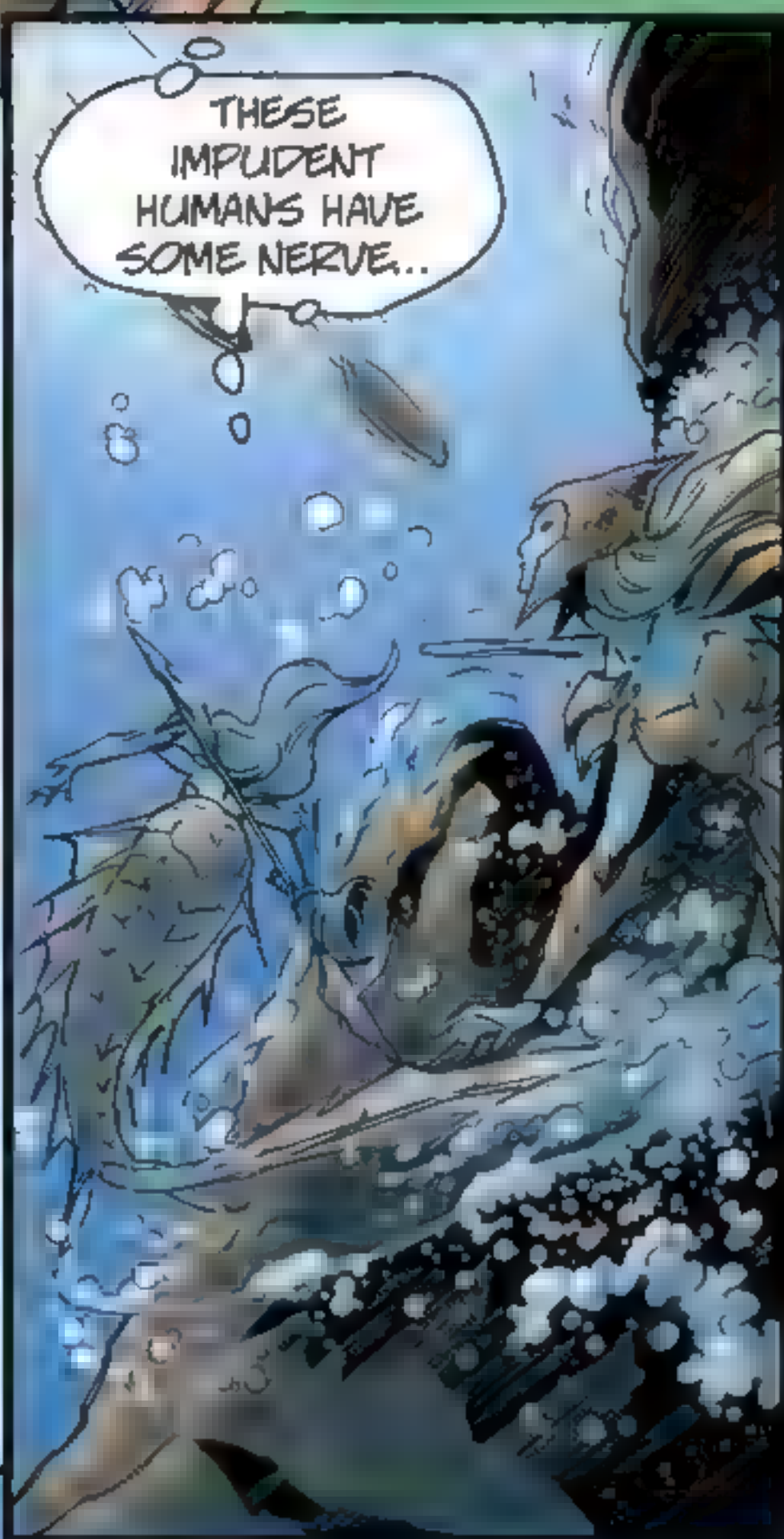
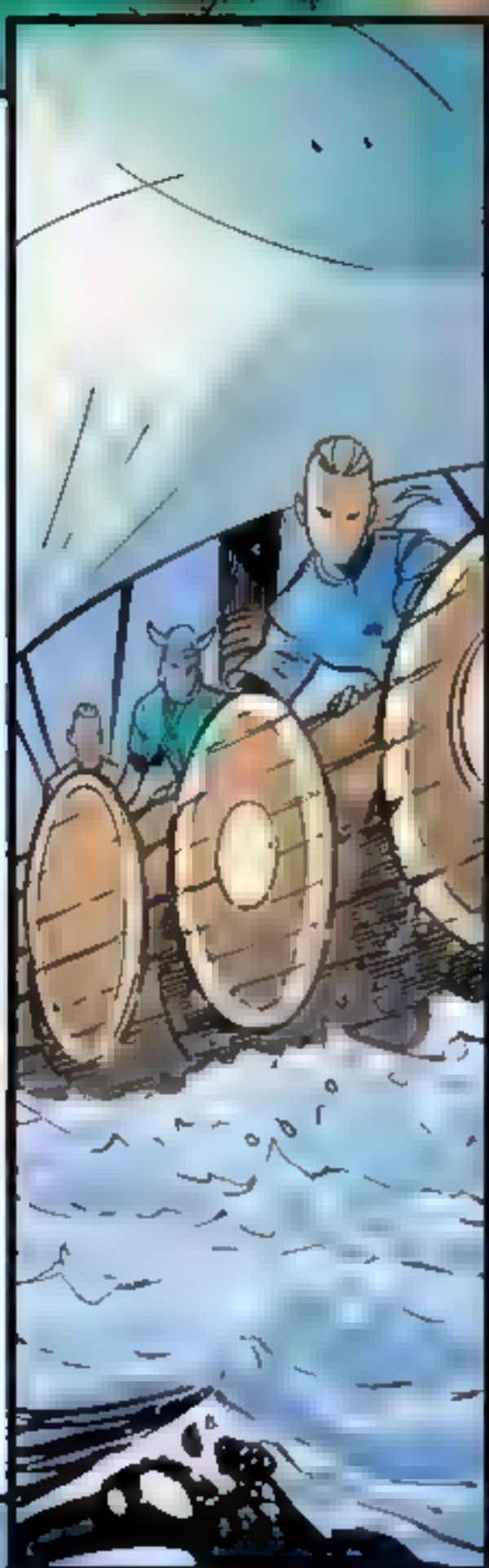
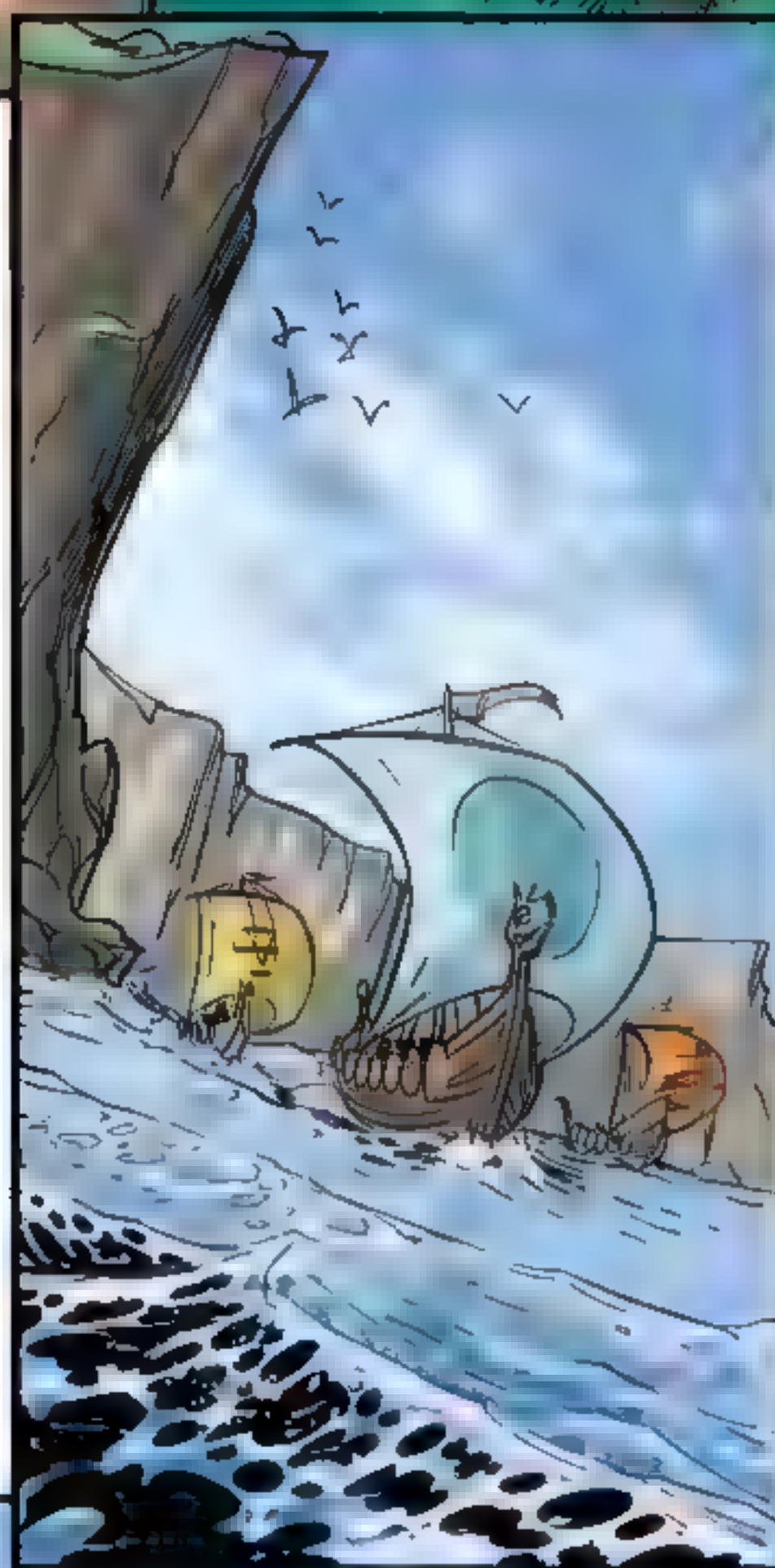
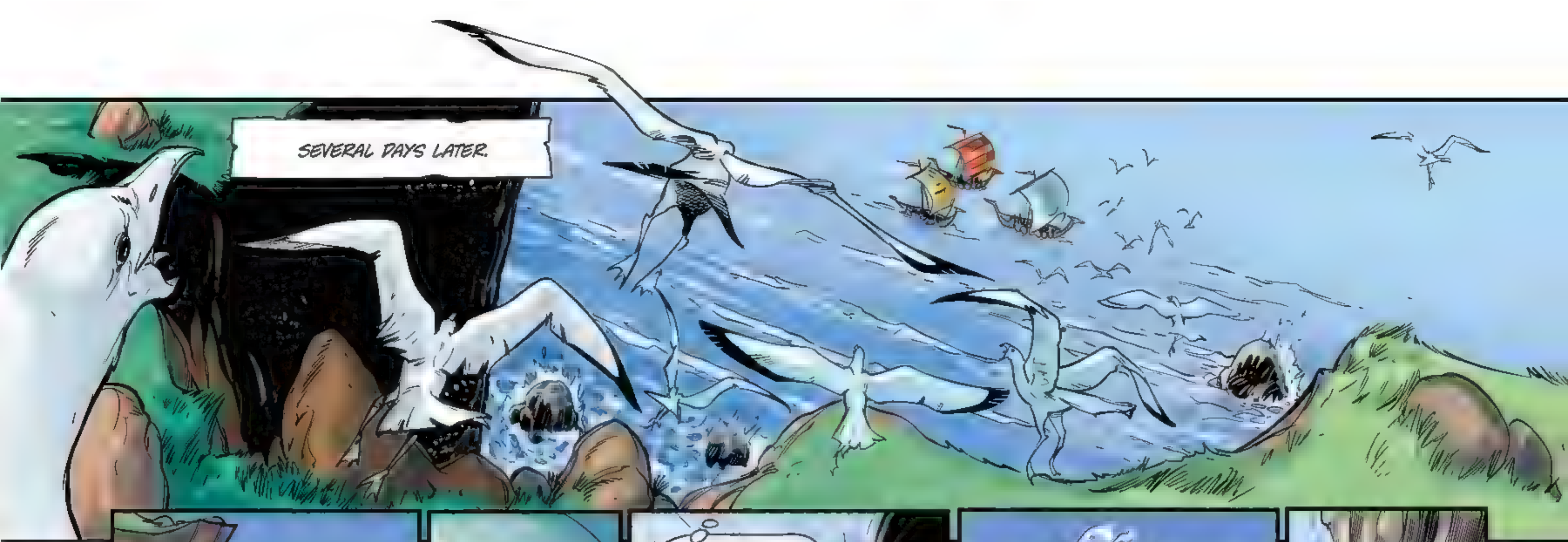
DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT
YOU FELT STRONGER
WHEN YOU WERE
BY MY SIDE?

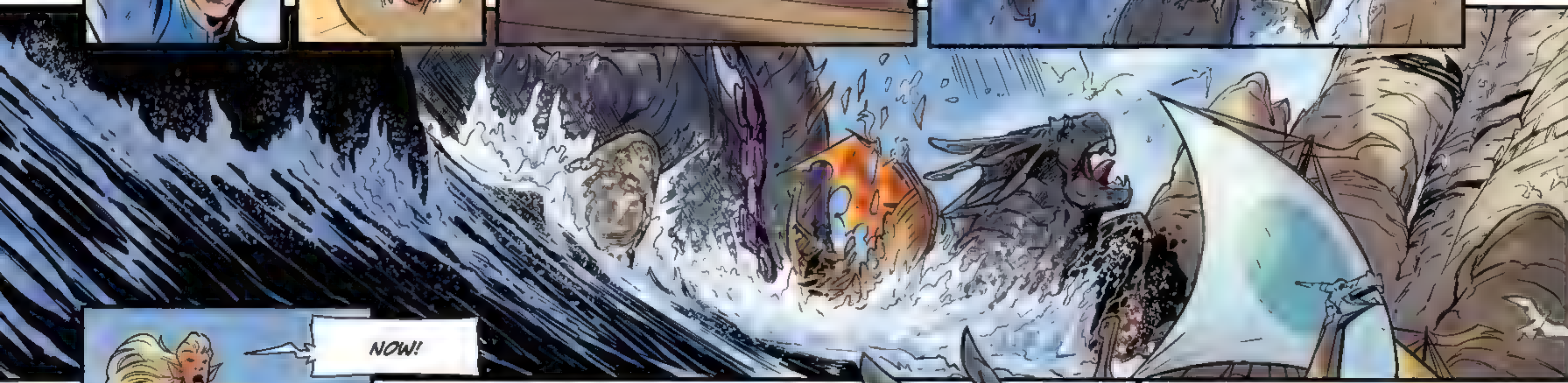
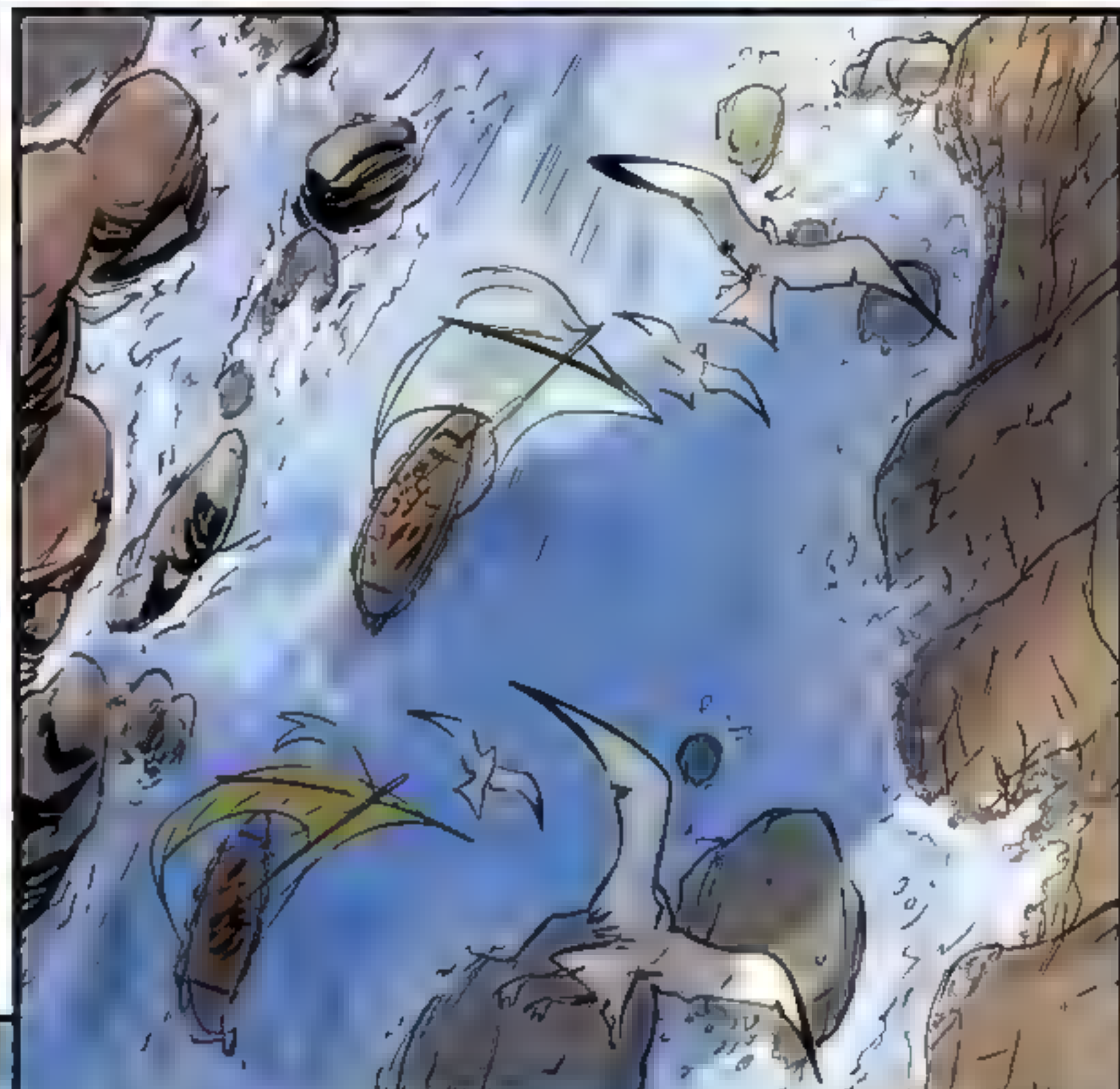
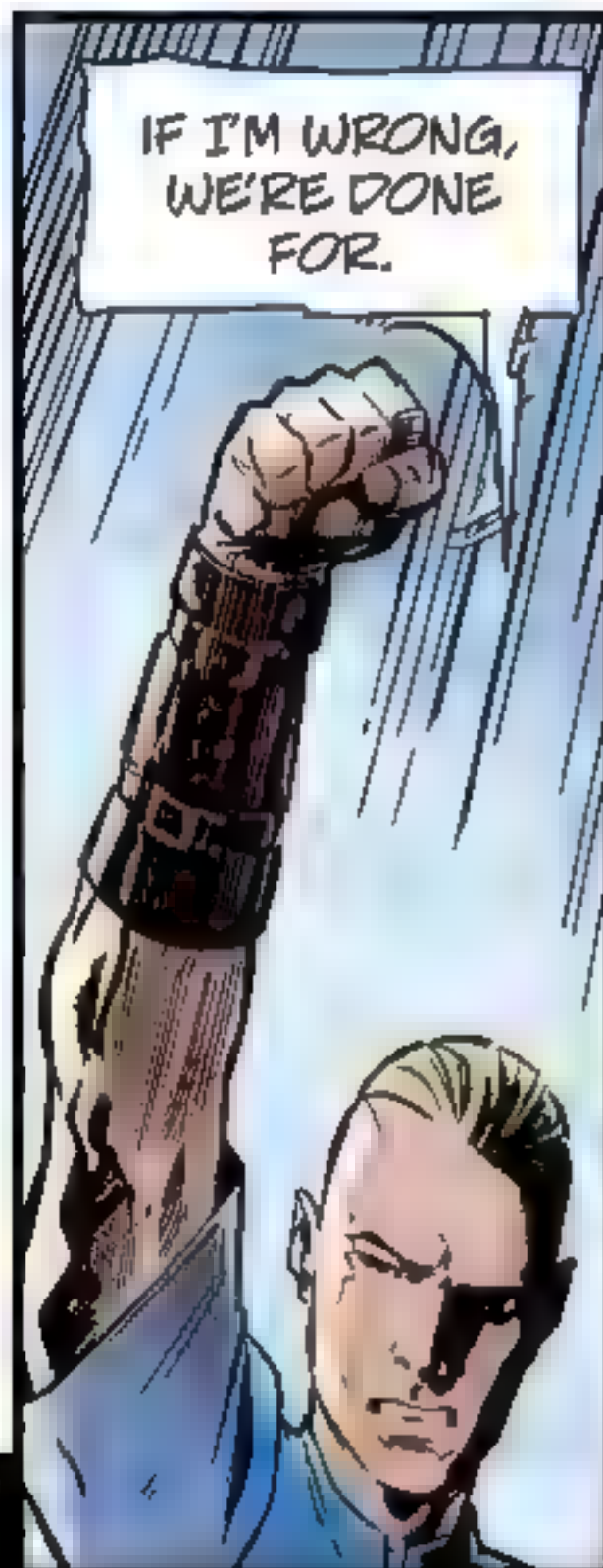
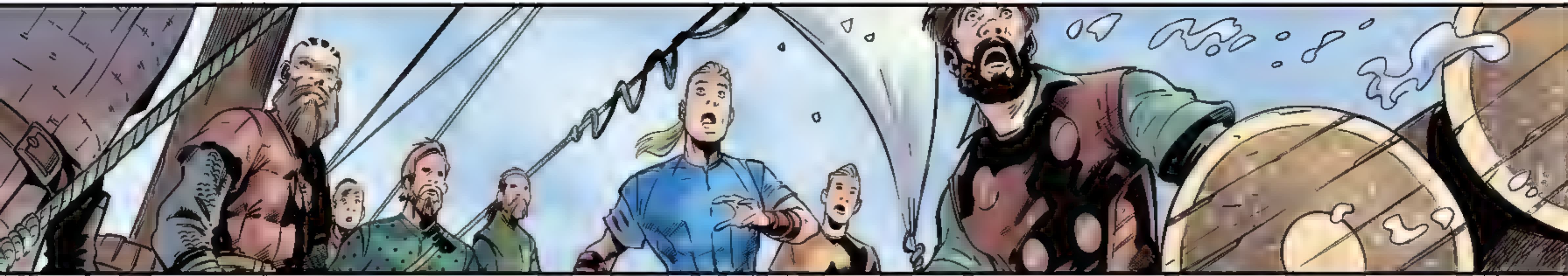


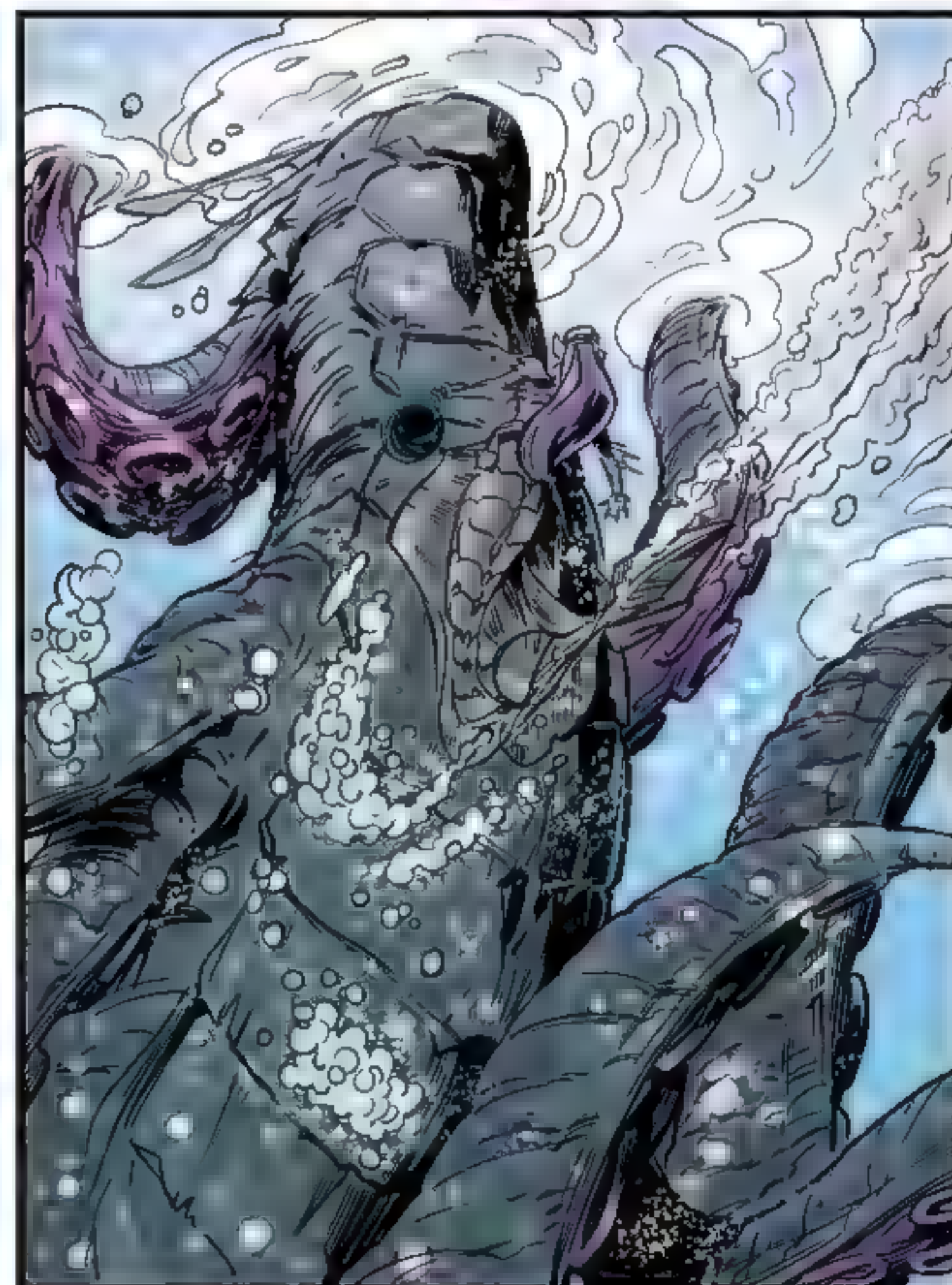
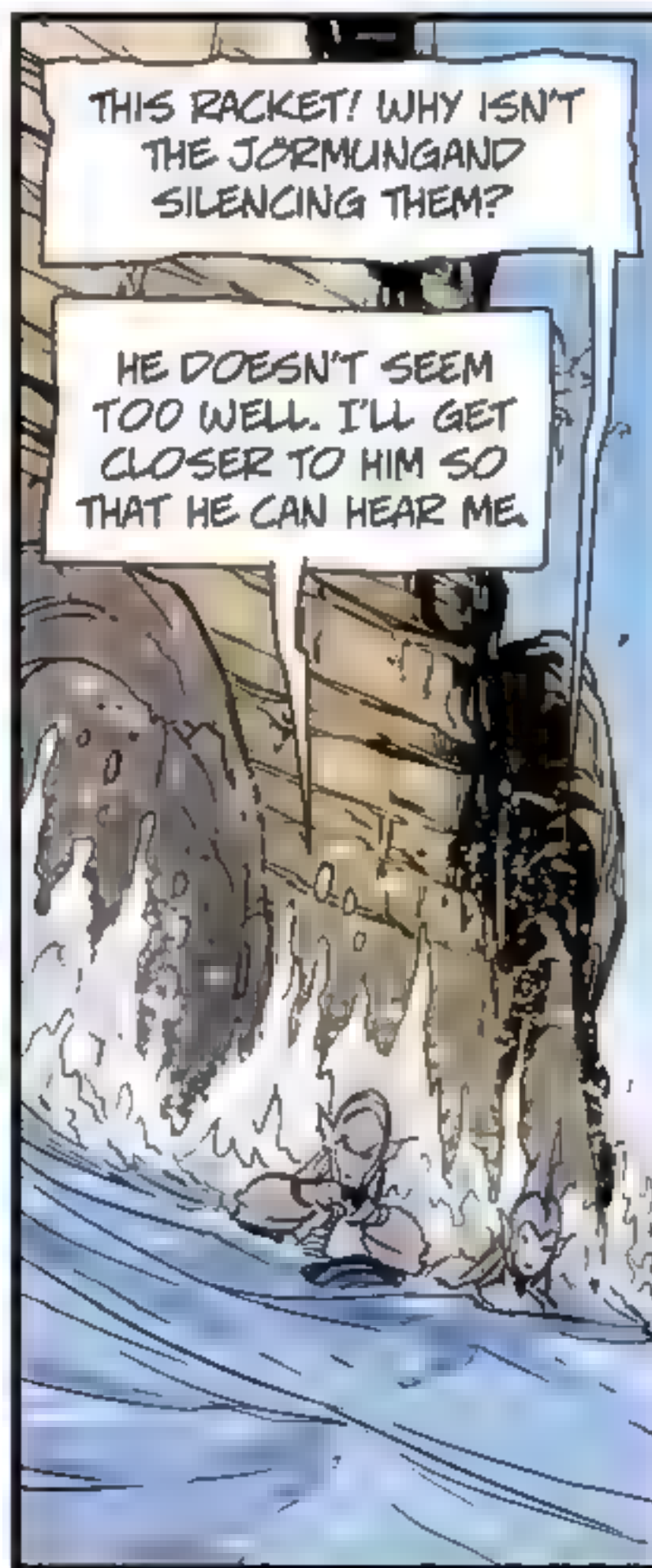
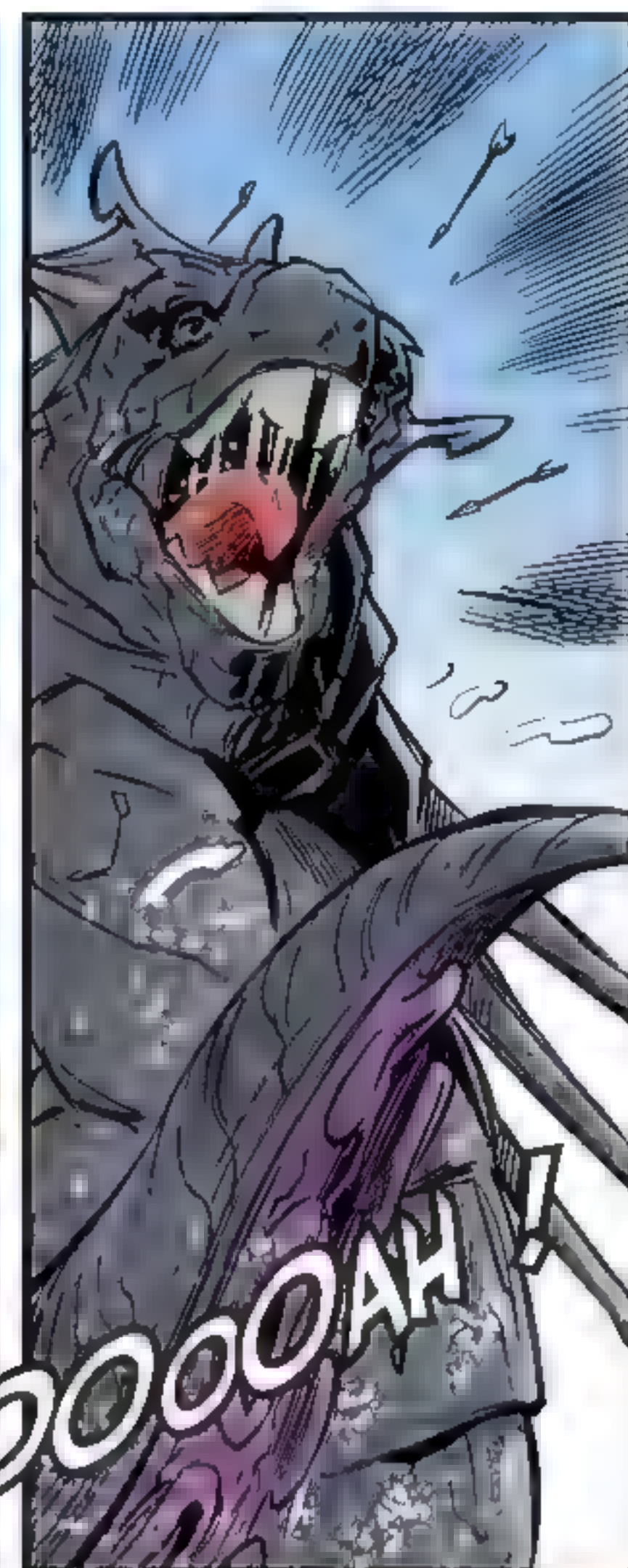
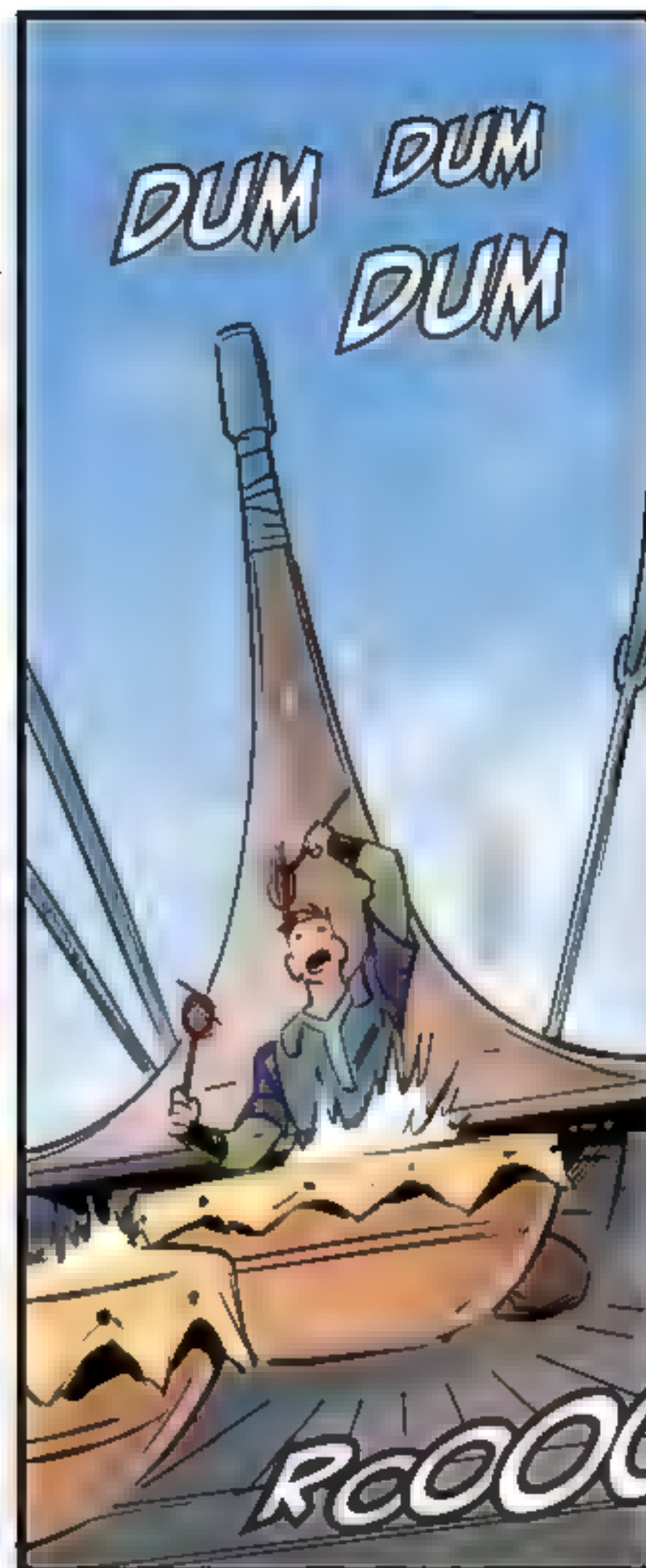
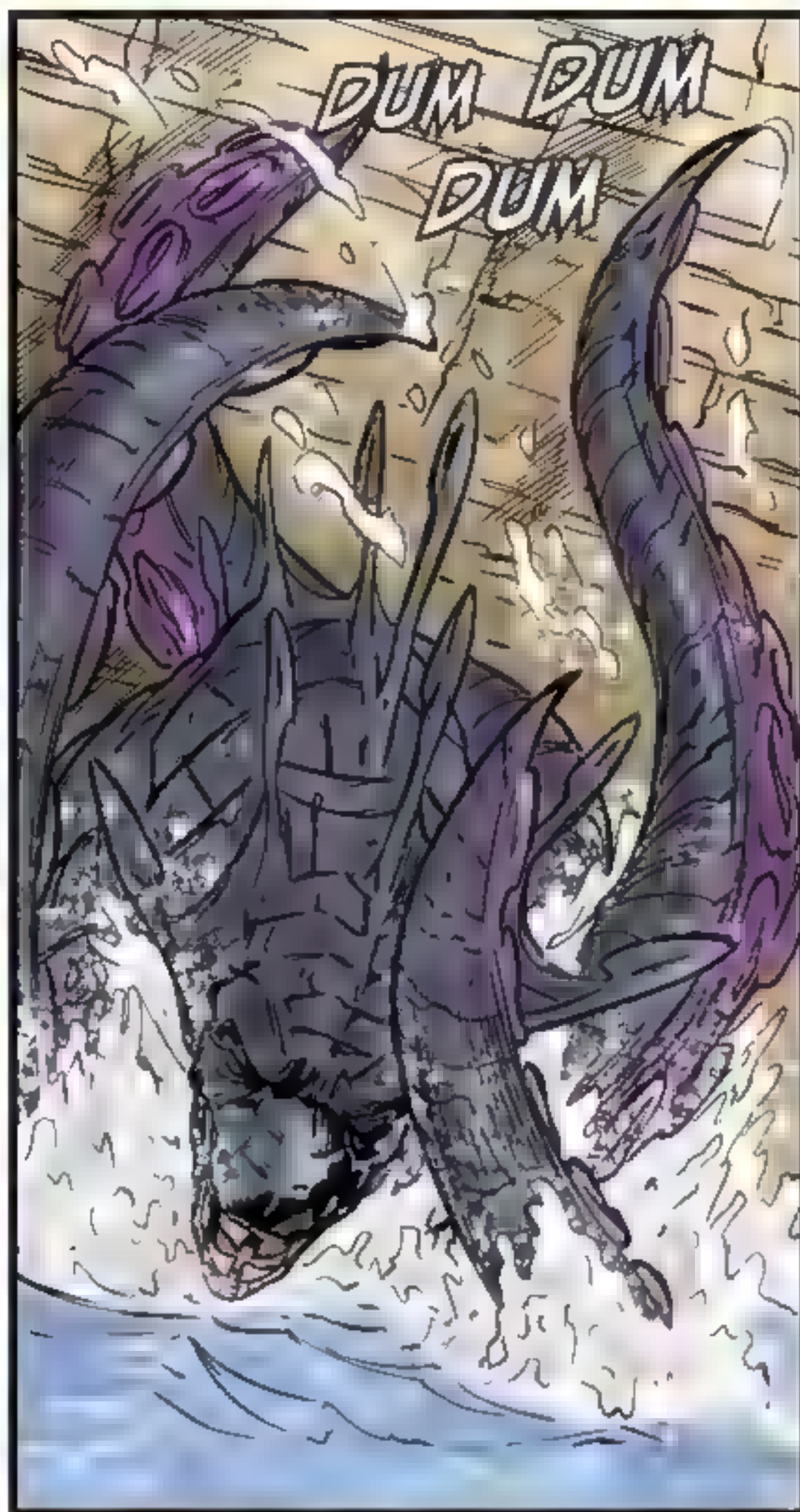
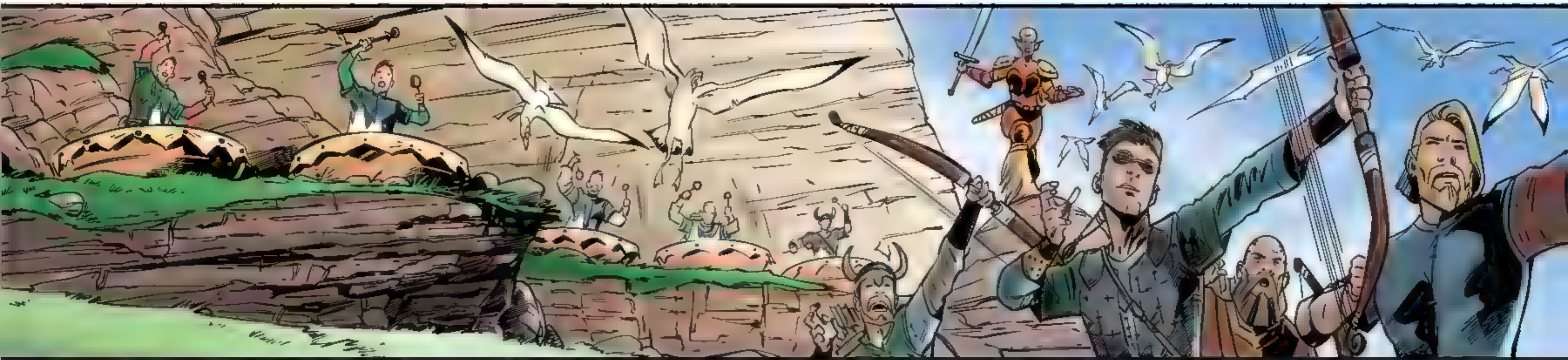
YOU KNOW, I UNDERSTAND YOU, YOU
FEEL LIKE YOU'RE DIFFERENT. BUT AT
LEAST, YOU HAVE A REAL FAMILY.
WHEREVER I GO, I GET REJECTED...
HALF-HUMAN, HALF-TROLL... THE TRUTH IS,
I'M NEITHER ONE NOR THE OTHER. I DON'T
FEEL LIKE I BELONG ANYWHERE.

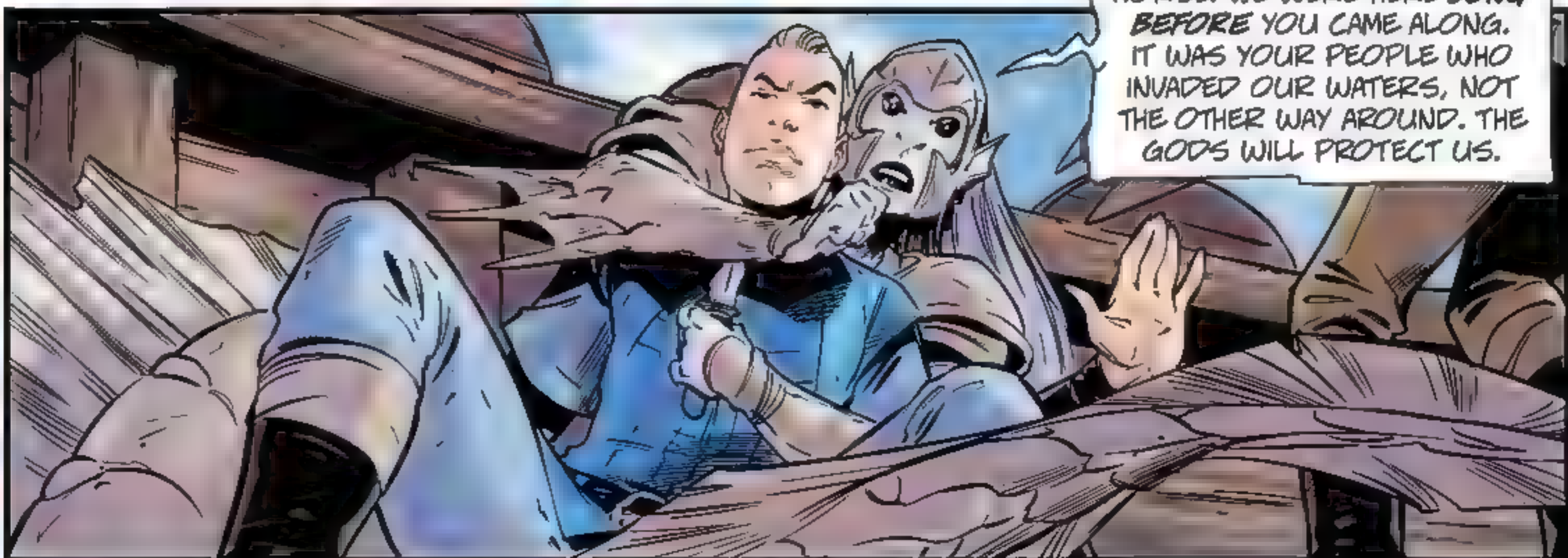
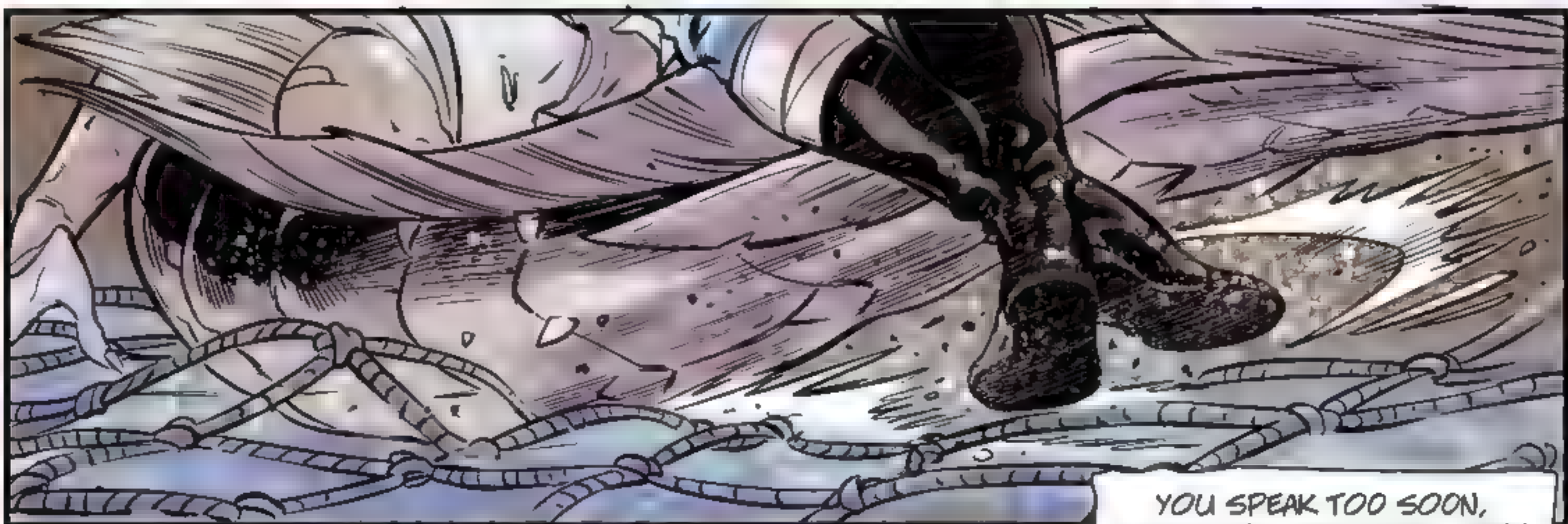
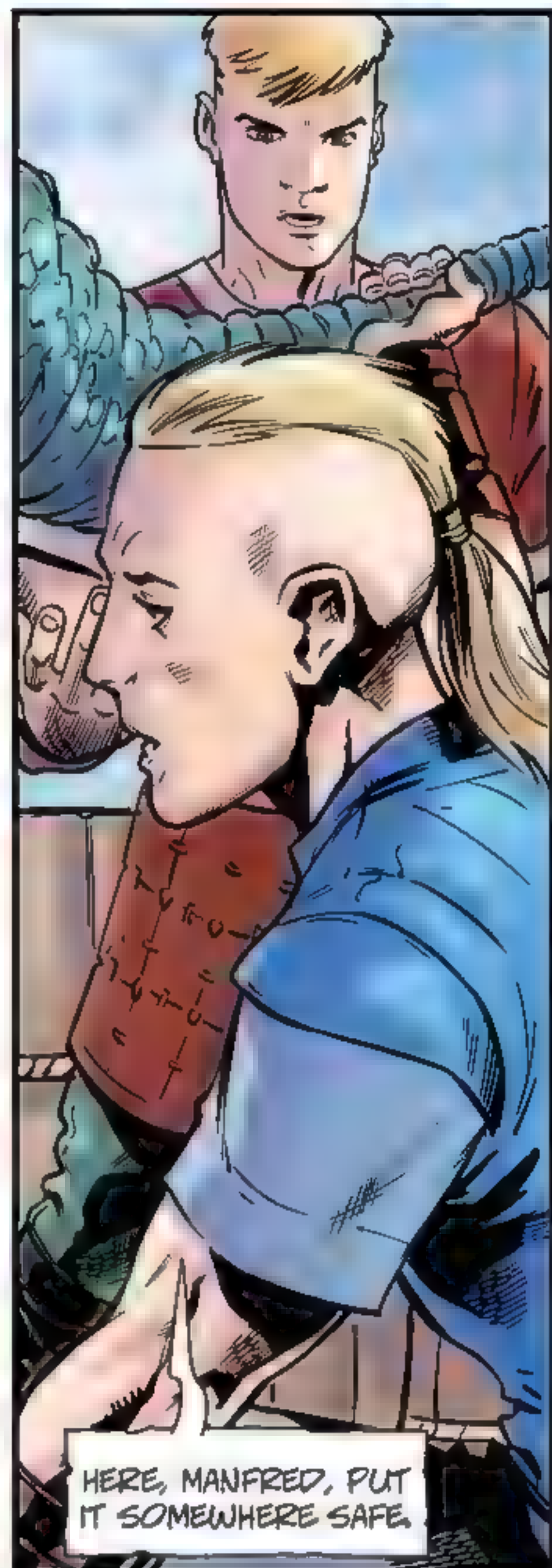
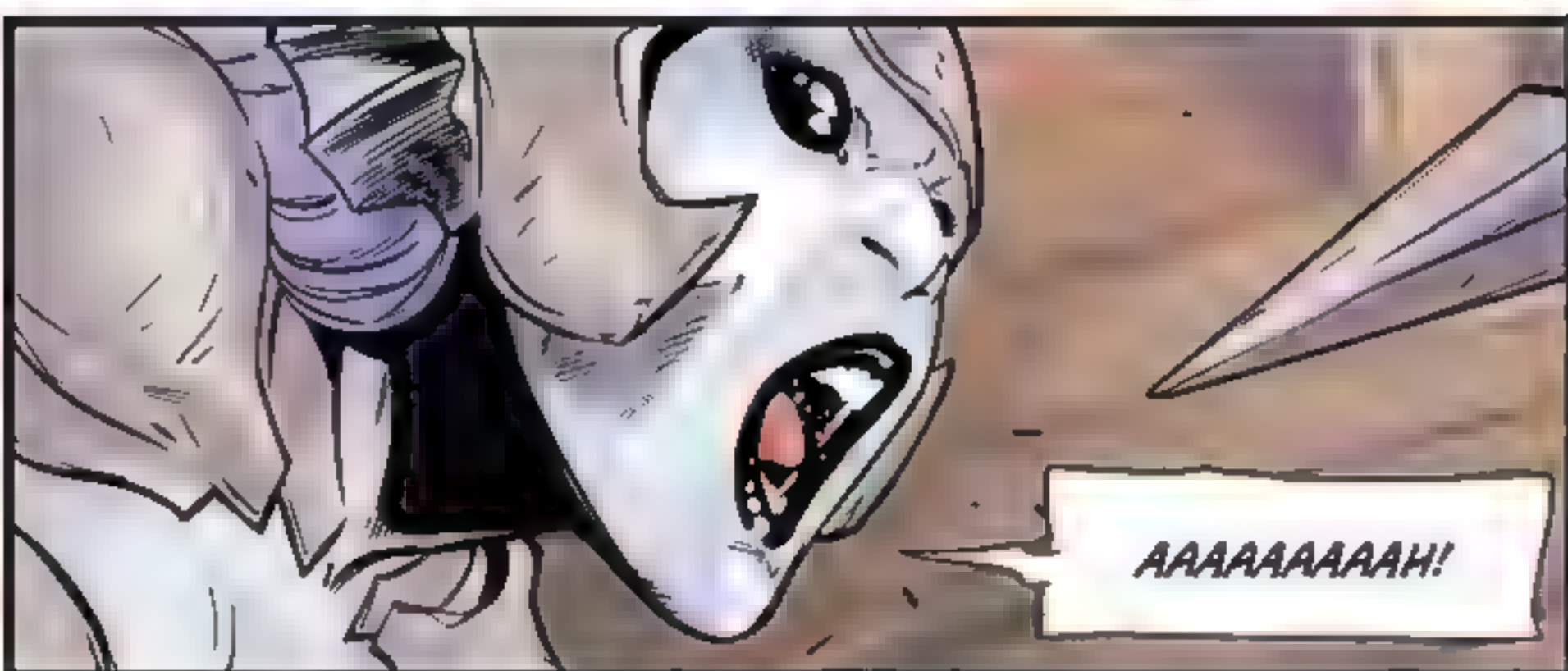
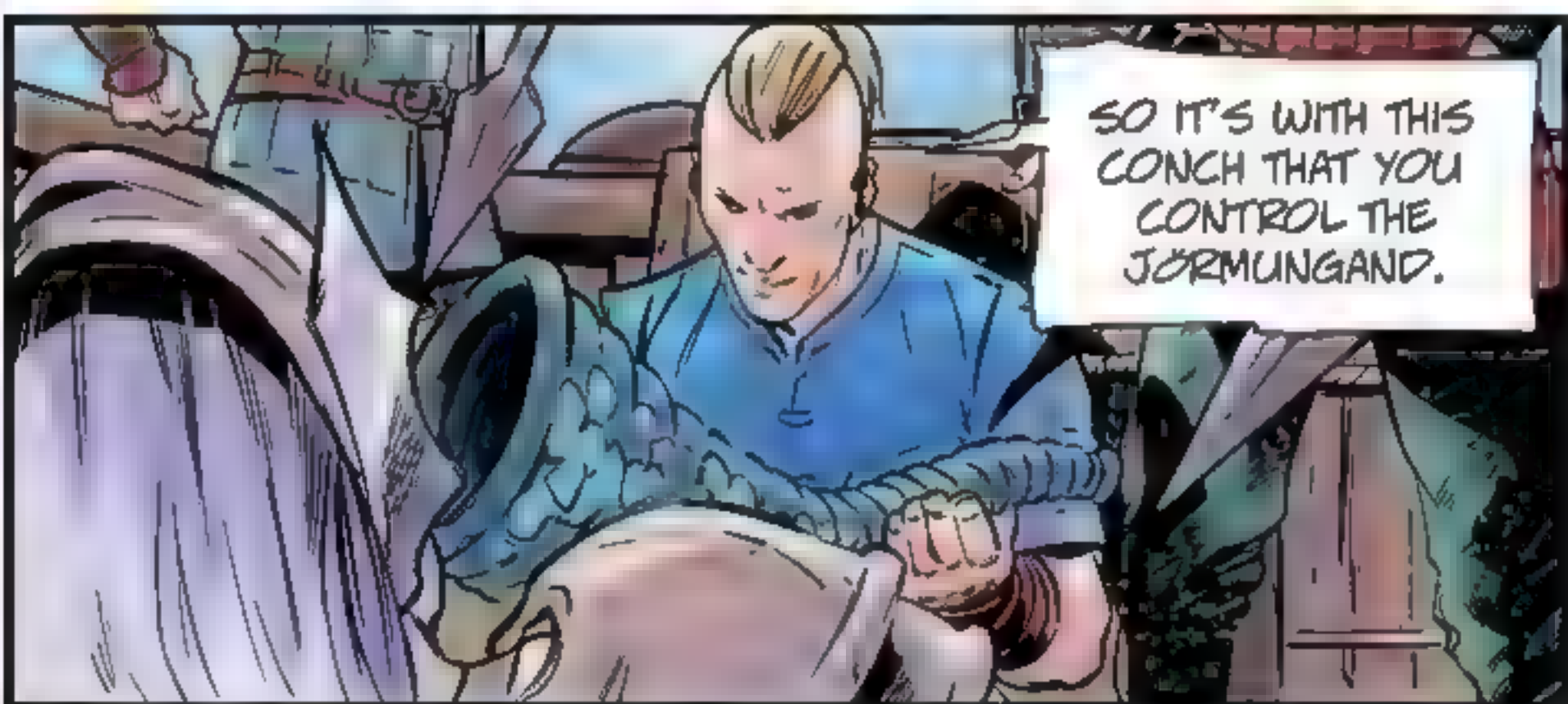
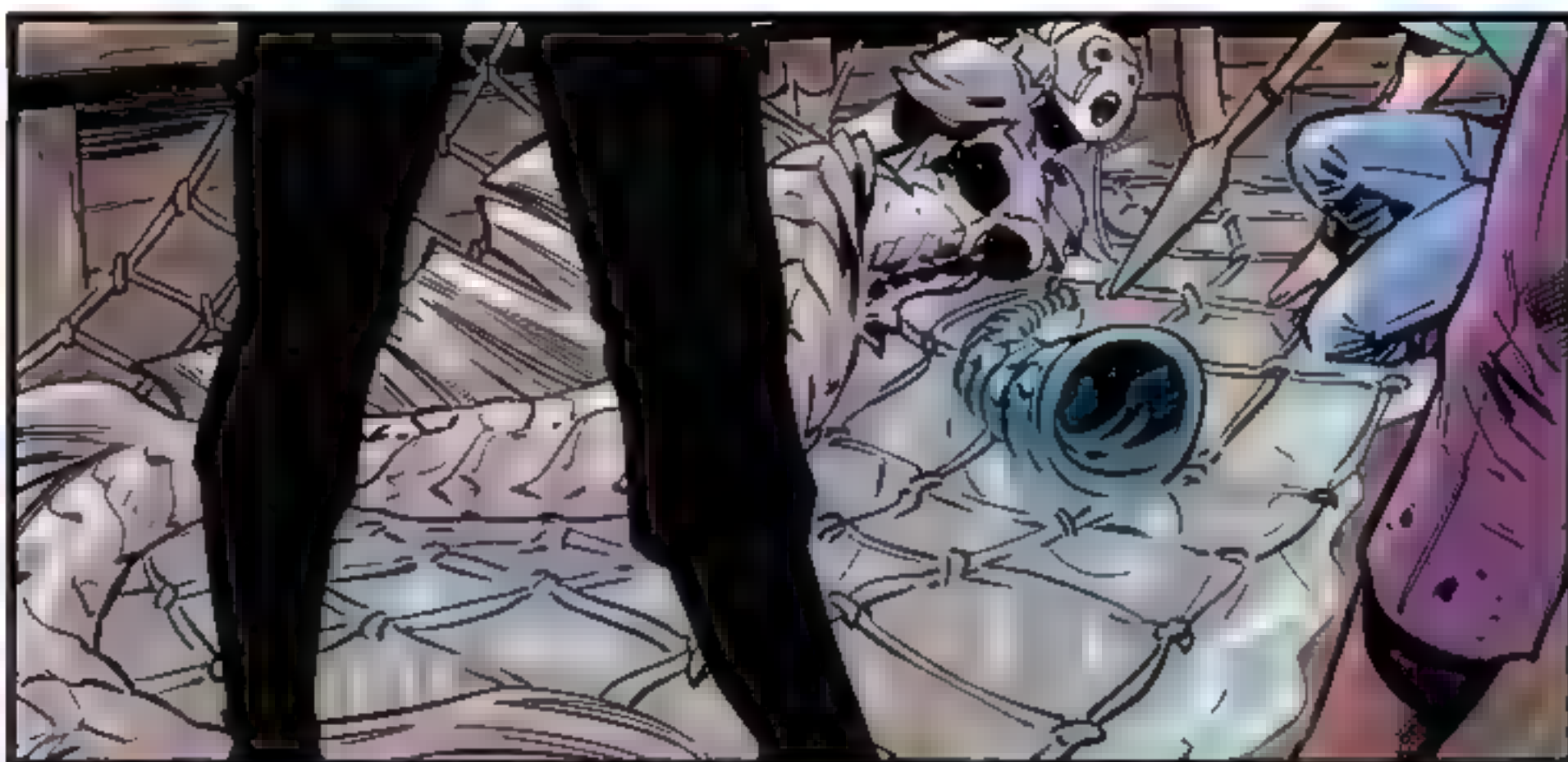
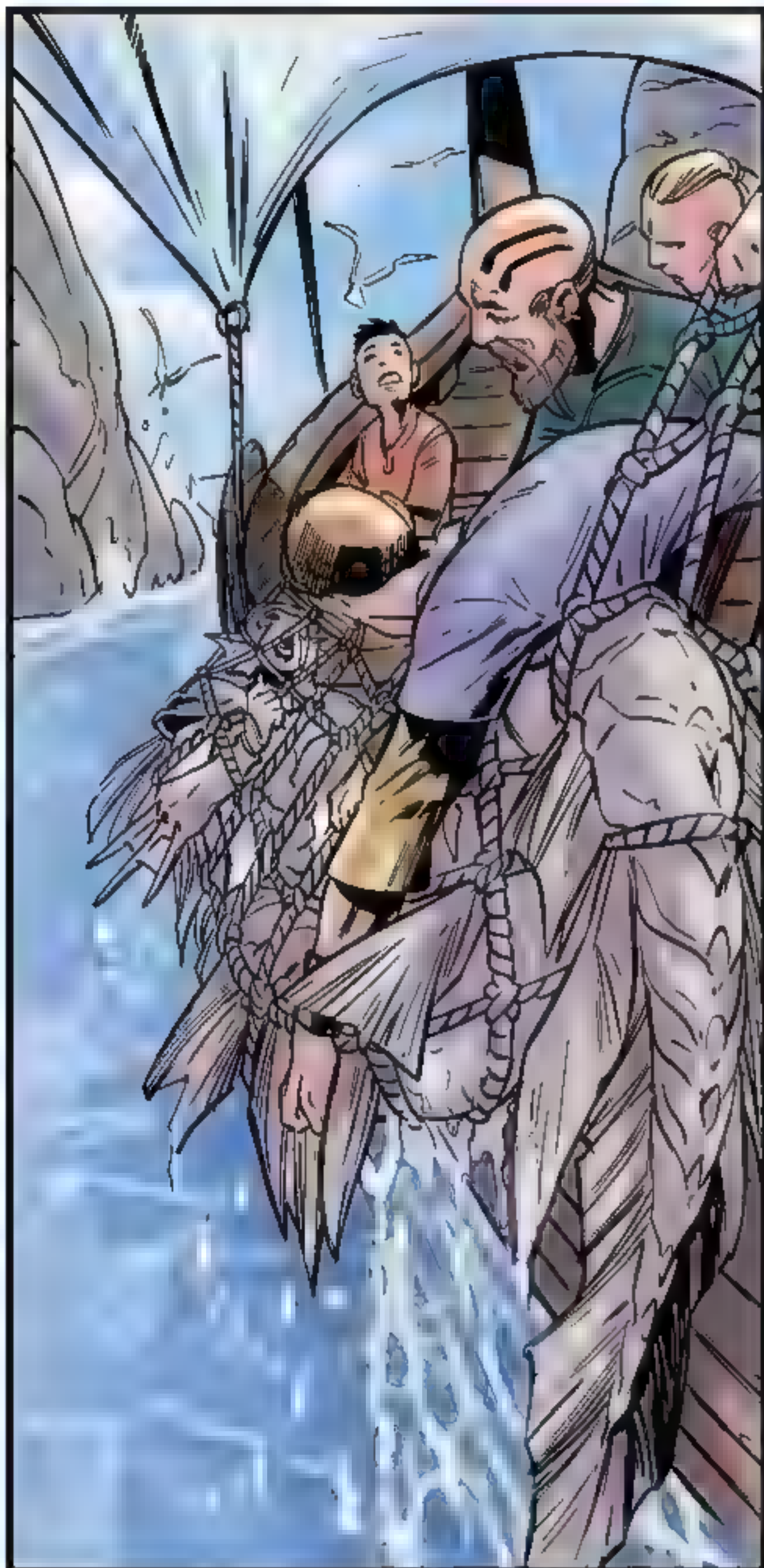
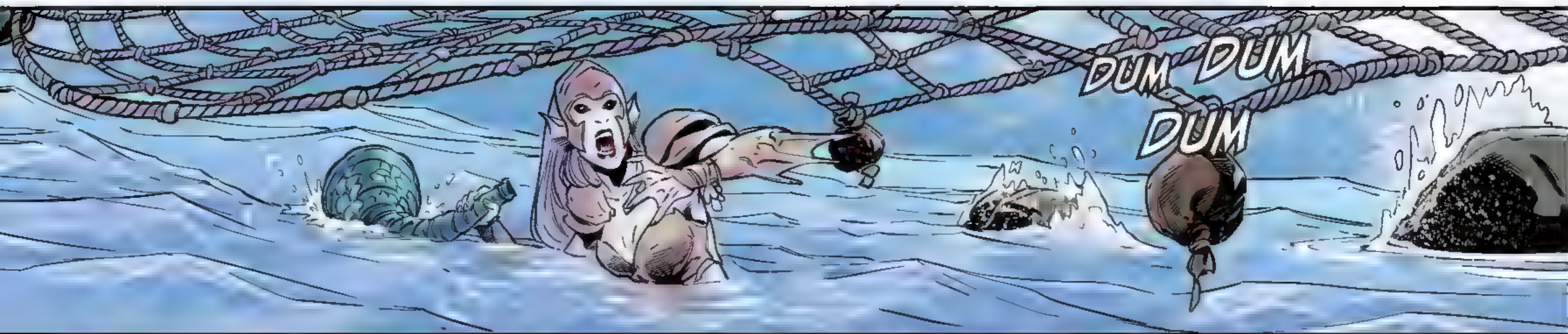


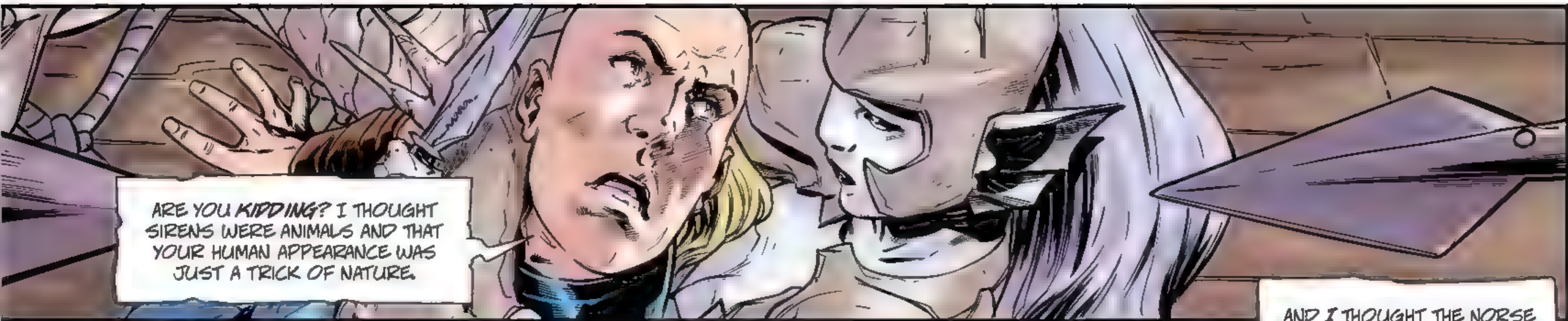
EXCEPT MAYBE
IN YOUR ARMS...





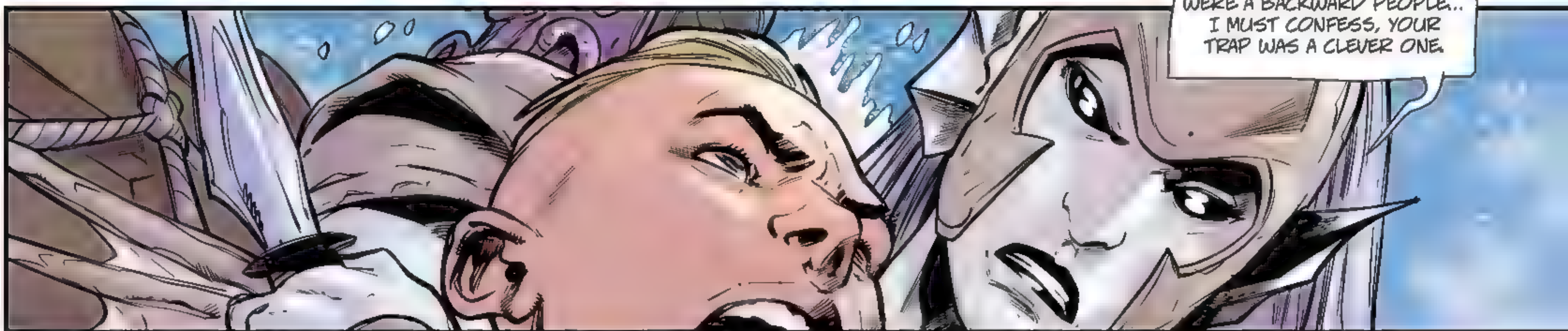






ARE YOU KIDDING? I THOUGHT
SIRENS WERE ANIMALS AND THAT
YOUR HUMAN APPEARANCE WAS
JUST A TRICK OF NATURE.

AND I THOUGHT THE NORSE
WERE A BACKWARD PEOPLE...
I MUST CONFESS, YOUR
TRAP WAS A CLEVER ONE.



THE GODS BEAR
WITNESS TO THE
PURITY OF MY
INTENTIONS.



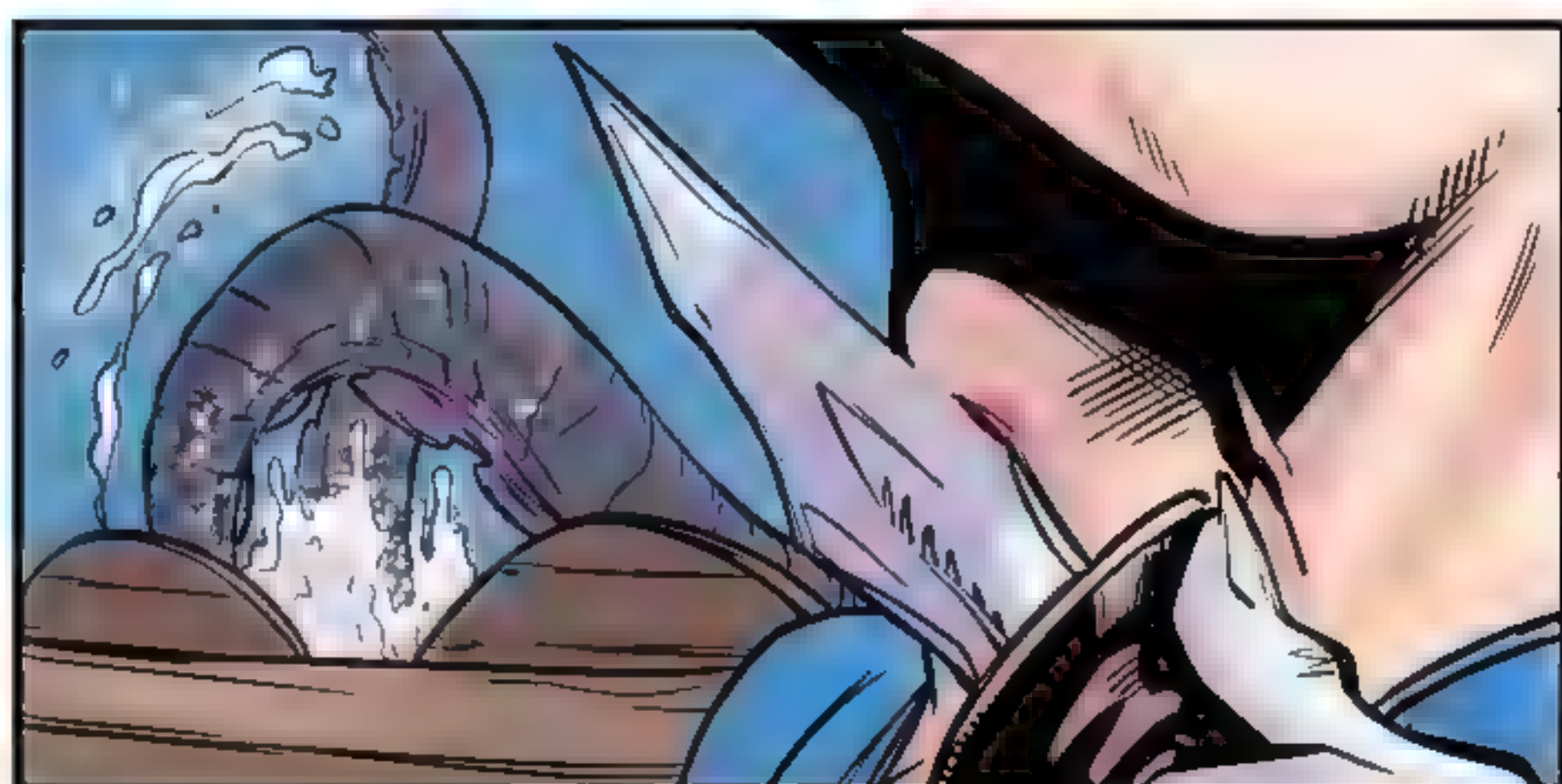
I ONLY TOOK THE CONCH TO
PREVENT YOUR PEOPLE FROM
SLAUGHTERING MINE. THE SEA IS
VAST... WHY KILL EACH OTHER?



WHY DON'T WE CALL A
TRUCE UNTIL WE WORK
OUT A LASTING PEACE?



AND WHY WOULDN'T
I OFFER YOUR LIFE TO THE
GODS? TO PUNISH YOU
FOR YOUR LIES...



I MEAN IT. I, INGVALD KETILSSON, BELIEVE THAT WE CAN PUT AN END TO THE ENDLESS MASSACRES BETWEEN OUR TWO SPECIES.

YOU'RE CRAZY AND NAIVE, NORSE! FAREWELL!

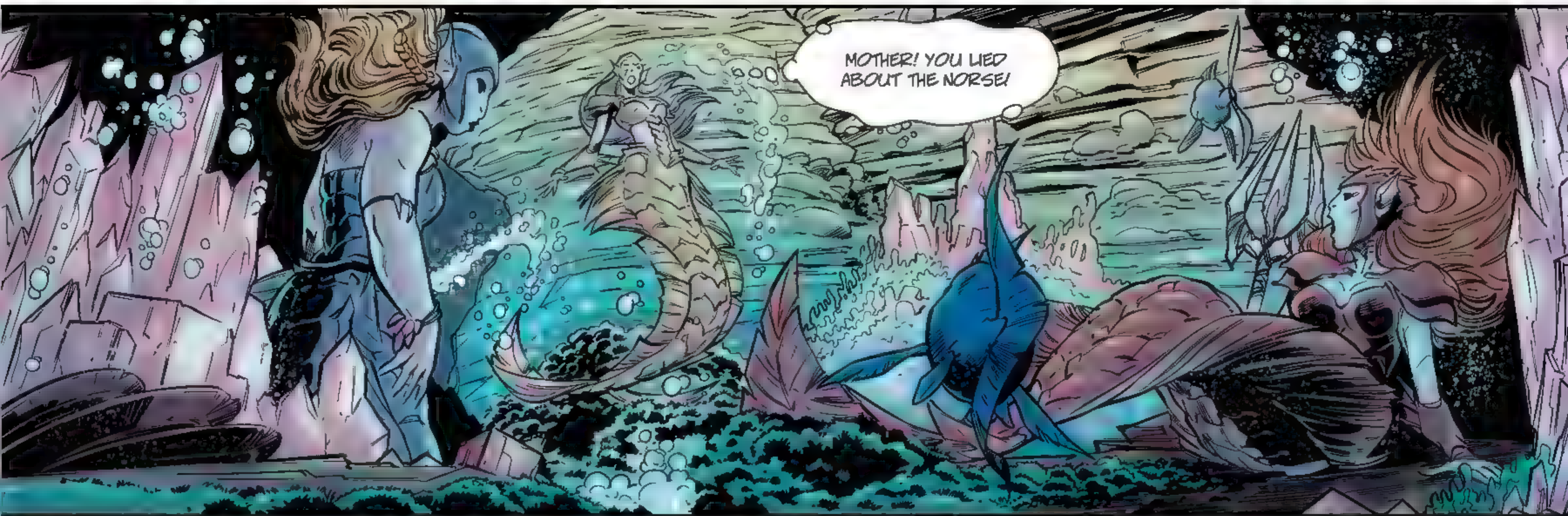
I THOUGHT SIRENS WERE MERCILESS CREATURES. WHY DID SHE LET YOU LIVE?

I DON'T KNOW...

BRRRRRRRRRRRROOOOHH...

DO YOU THINK IT'LL COME BACK NOW THAT YOU'VE SET IT FREE?

OF COURSE. IT'LL BE UNDER MY COMMAND AS SOON AS I CALL IT. THIS CONCH IS MAGIC. IT CAN BE HEARD FROM ALL THE WAY DOWN AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA, EXCEPT WHEN DEAFENING DRUMS ARE PLAYED NEAR IT...



MOTHER! YOU LIED ABOUT THE NORSE!

THEY'RE NOT ALL AS BLOODTHIRSTY AS YOU SAID THEY WERE!

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME LIKE THAT AFTER YOU RELEASED JORMUNGANDR, EVEN THOUGH I EXPRESSLY FORBODE YOU TO DO SO!

YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO OUR CLAN. DUFU SAW YOU STEAL THE CONCH. SHE ASKED ME FOR IT.

GIVE IT BACK TO IMMEDIATELY!

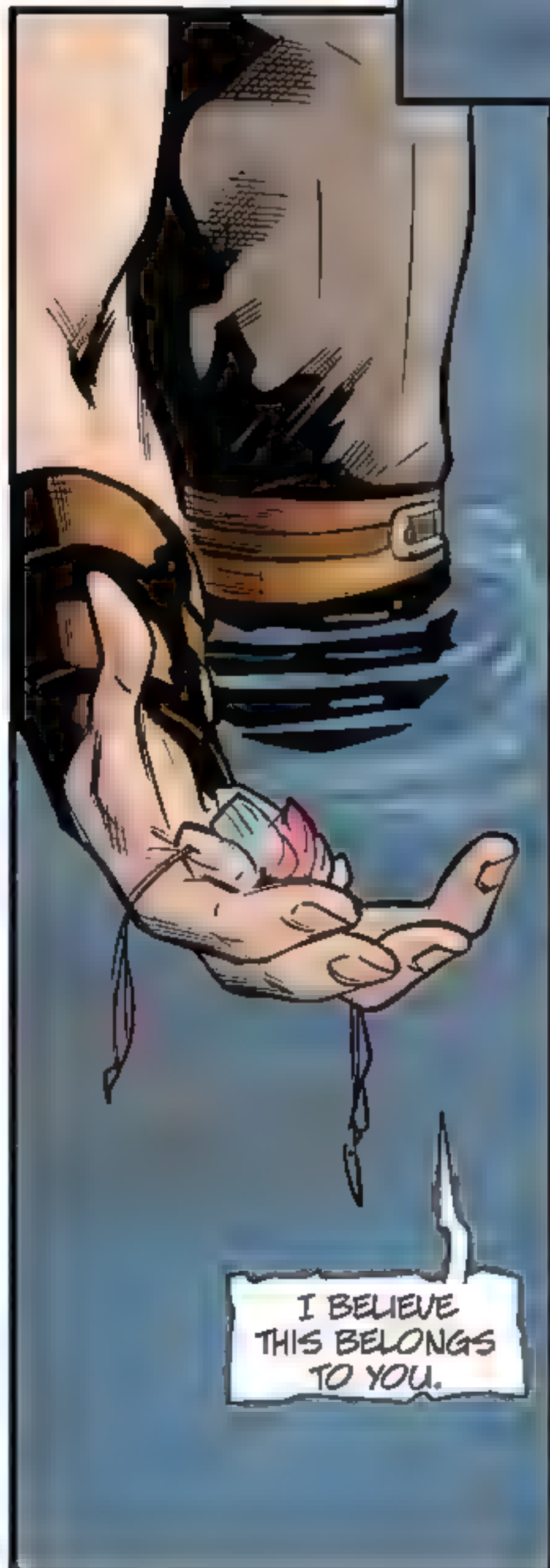
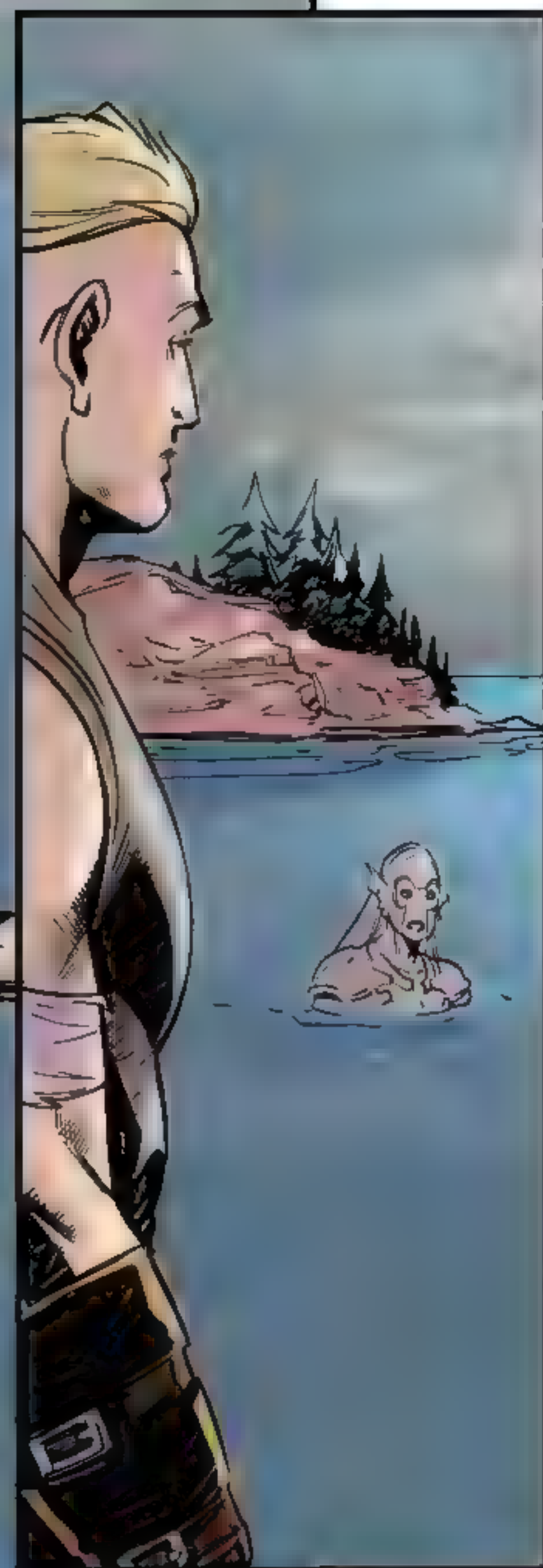
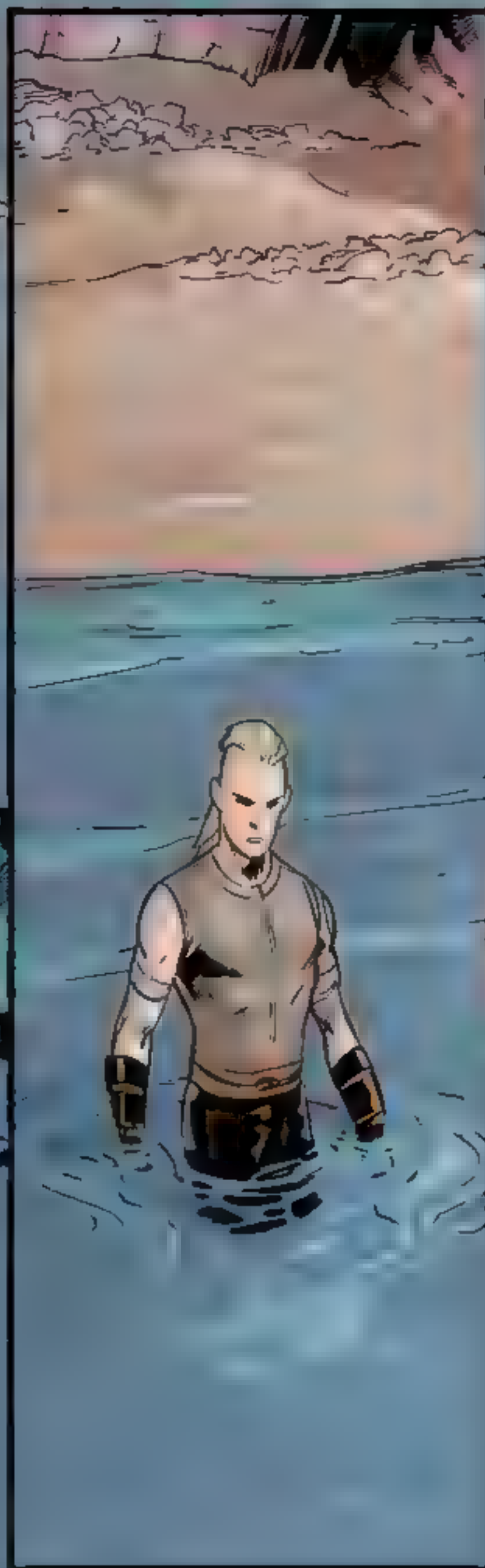
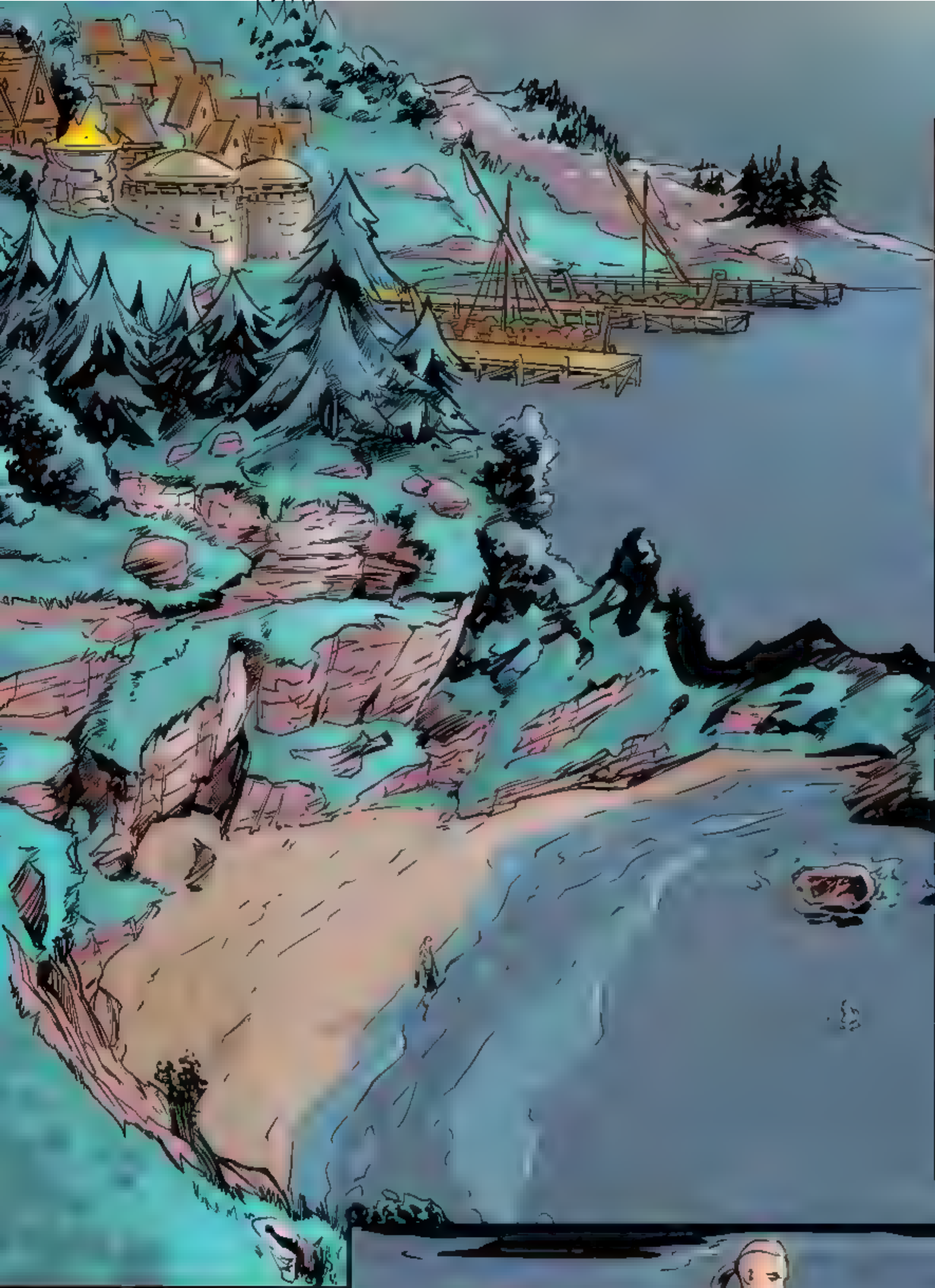
THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE. THE NORSE...

WHAT?! YOU FOOL, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE. YOU WANTED WAR, NOW YOU HAVE IT. AND THANKS TO YOU OUR ENEMY HAS THE ADVANTAGE!

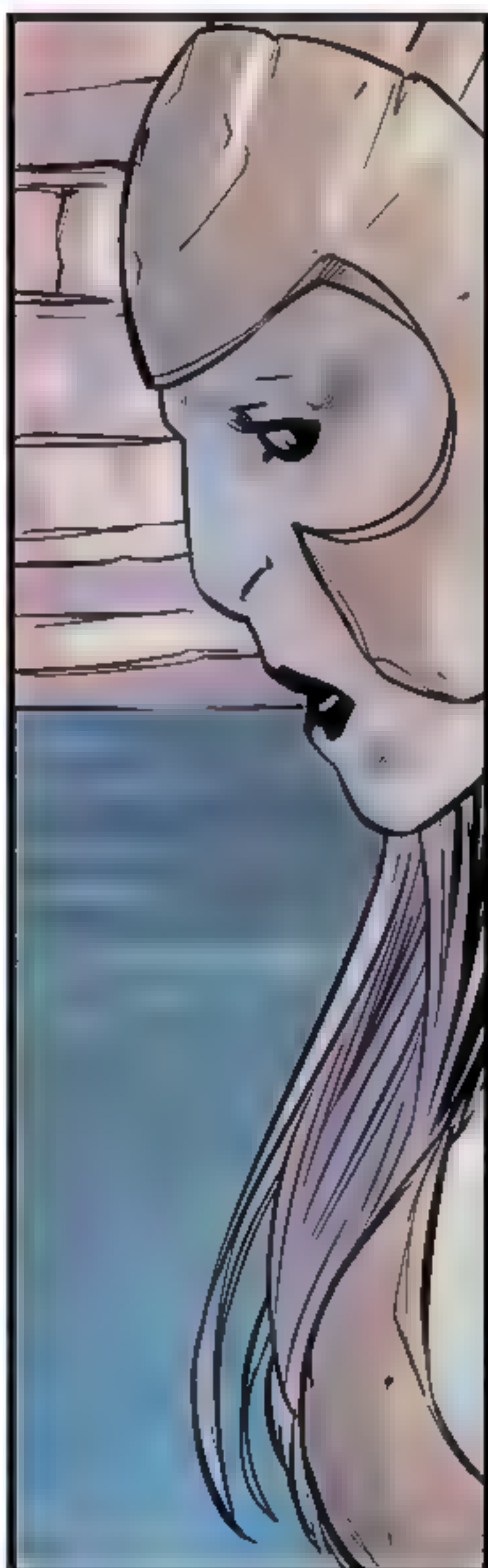
BUT I--

SHUT UP! I'M GOING TO WARN DUFU. WE'LL HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO DESTROY THE CONCH. I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF IT CAN BE DONE, SINCE IT'S PROTECTED BY MAGIC.

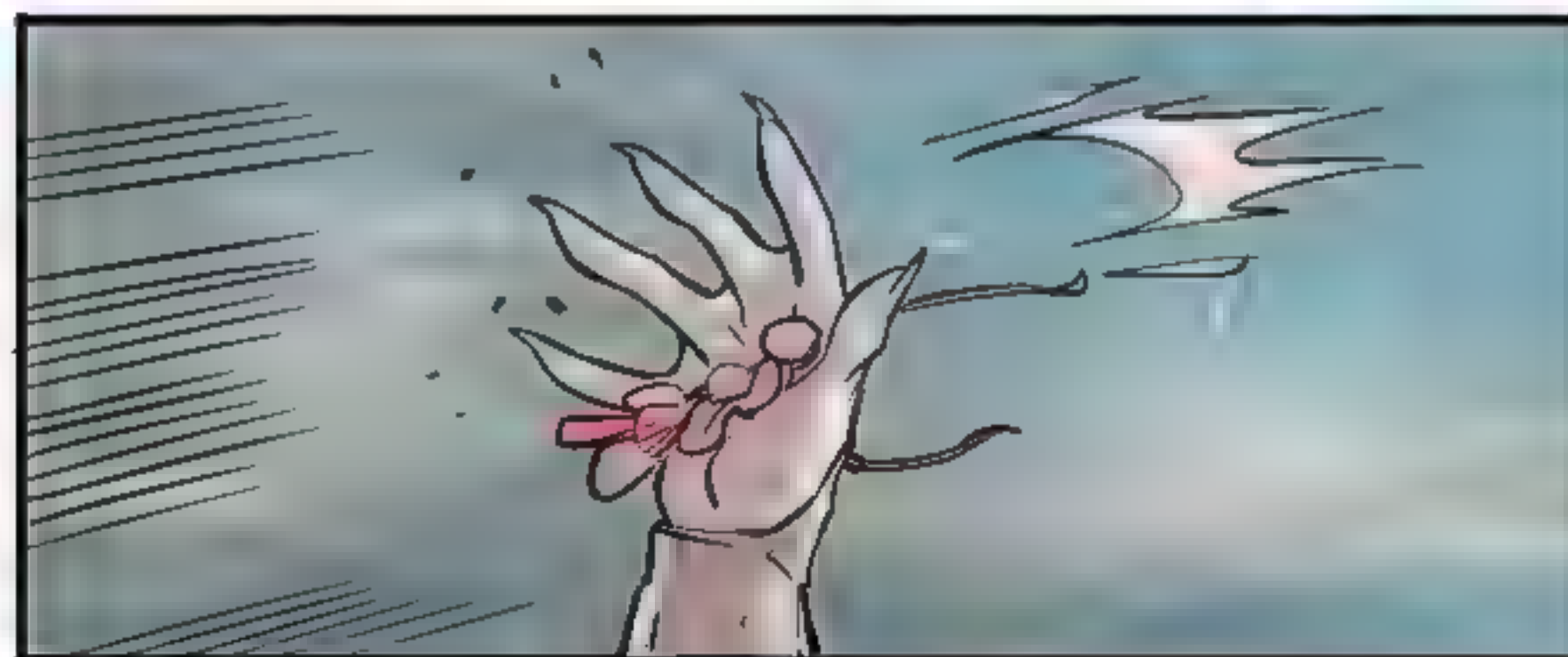
FROM NOW ON YOU ARE NOT TO TAKE THE SLIGHTEST INITIATIVE WITHOUT TALKING TO ME ABOUT IT FIRST.



I BELIEVE
THIS BELONGS
TO YOU.



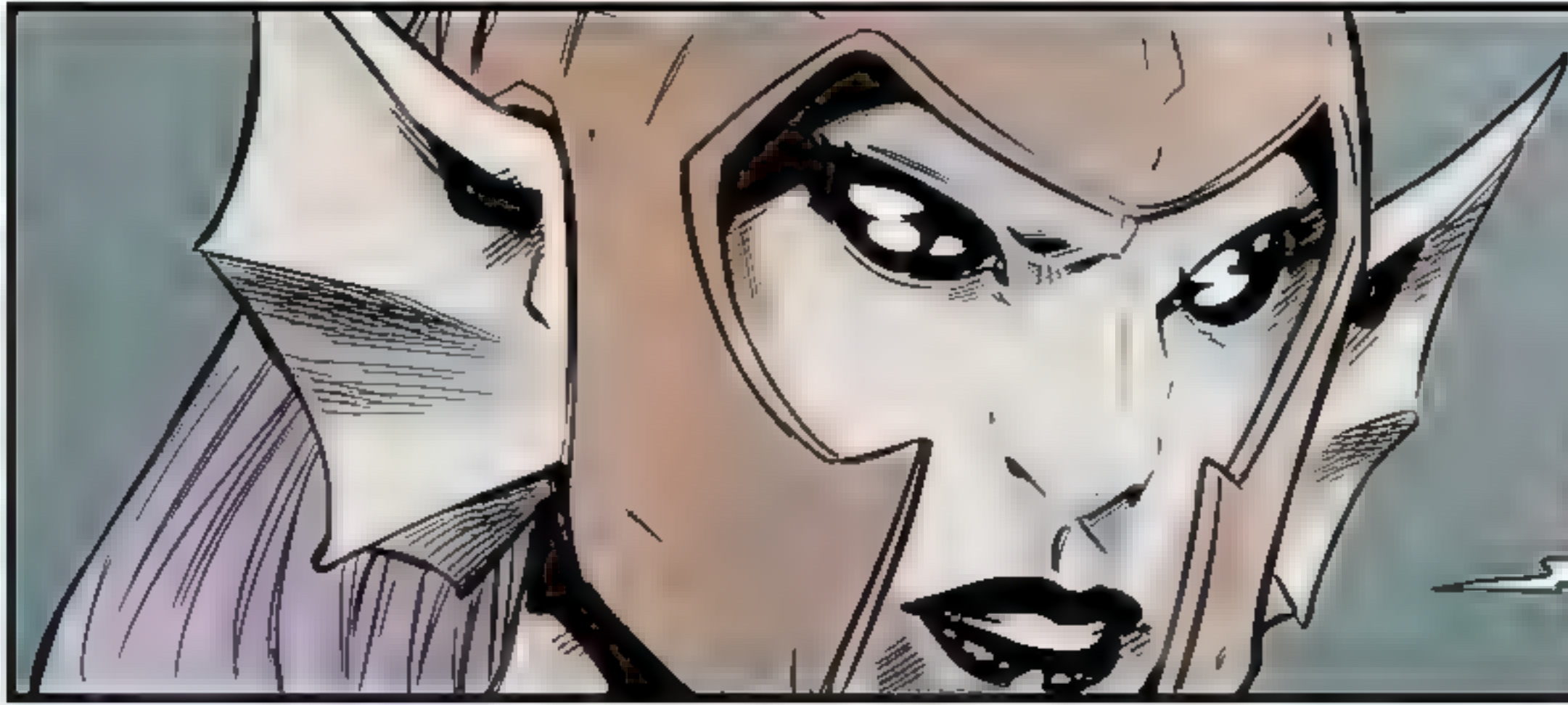
HAVE YOU
THOUGHT ABOUT
THE TRUCE I
PROPOSED?



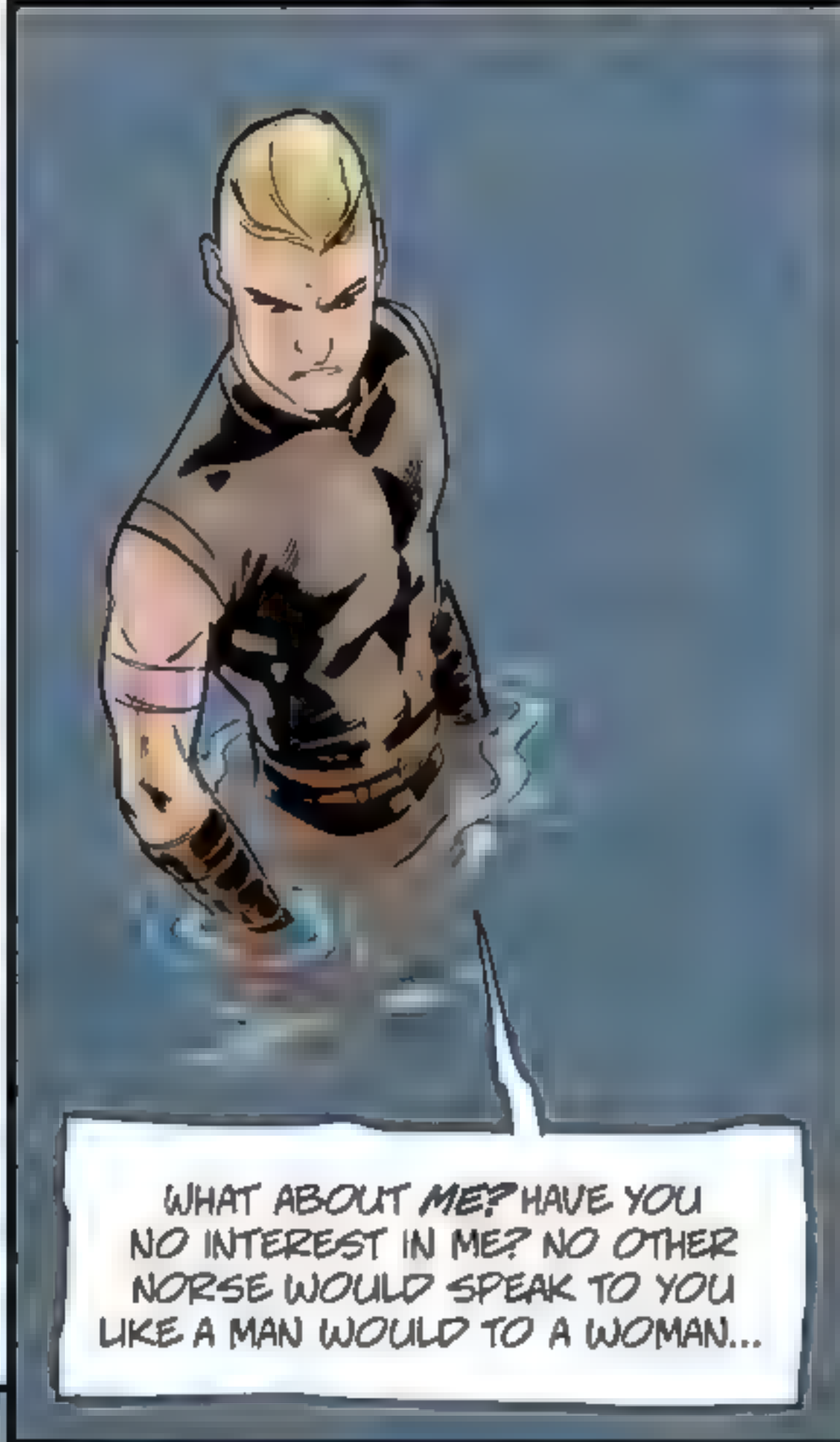
WHY DO YOU WANT PEACE
BETWEEN OUR TWO SPECIES
SO MUCH, NORSE?



I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT YOU. EVER SINCE WE MET, YOU'VE HAUNTED MY MIND. IF OUR PEOPLE LIVED IN HARMONY, YOU COULD SHOW ME YOUR WORLD... AND I COULD SHOW YOU MINE.



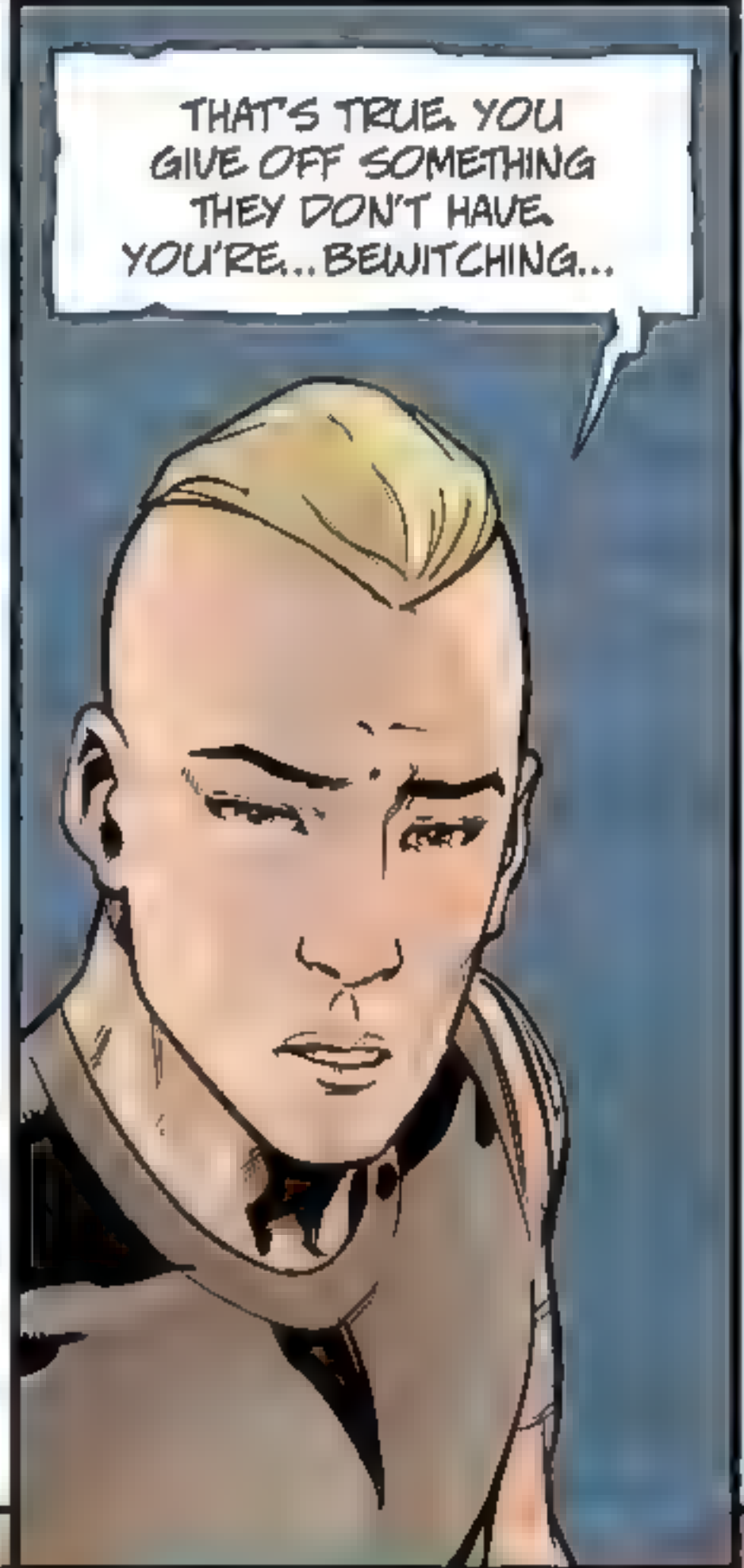
I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR WORLD.



WHAT ABOUT ME? HAVE YOU NO INTEREST IN ME? NO OTHER NORSE WOULD SPEAK TO YOU LIKE A MAN WOULD TO A WOMAN...



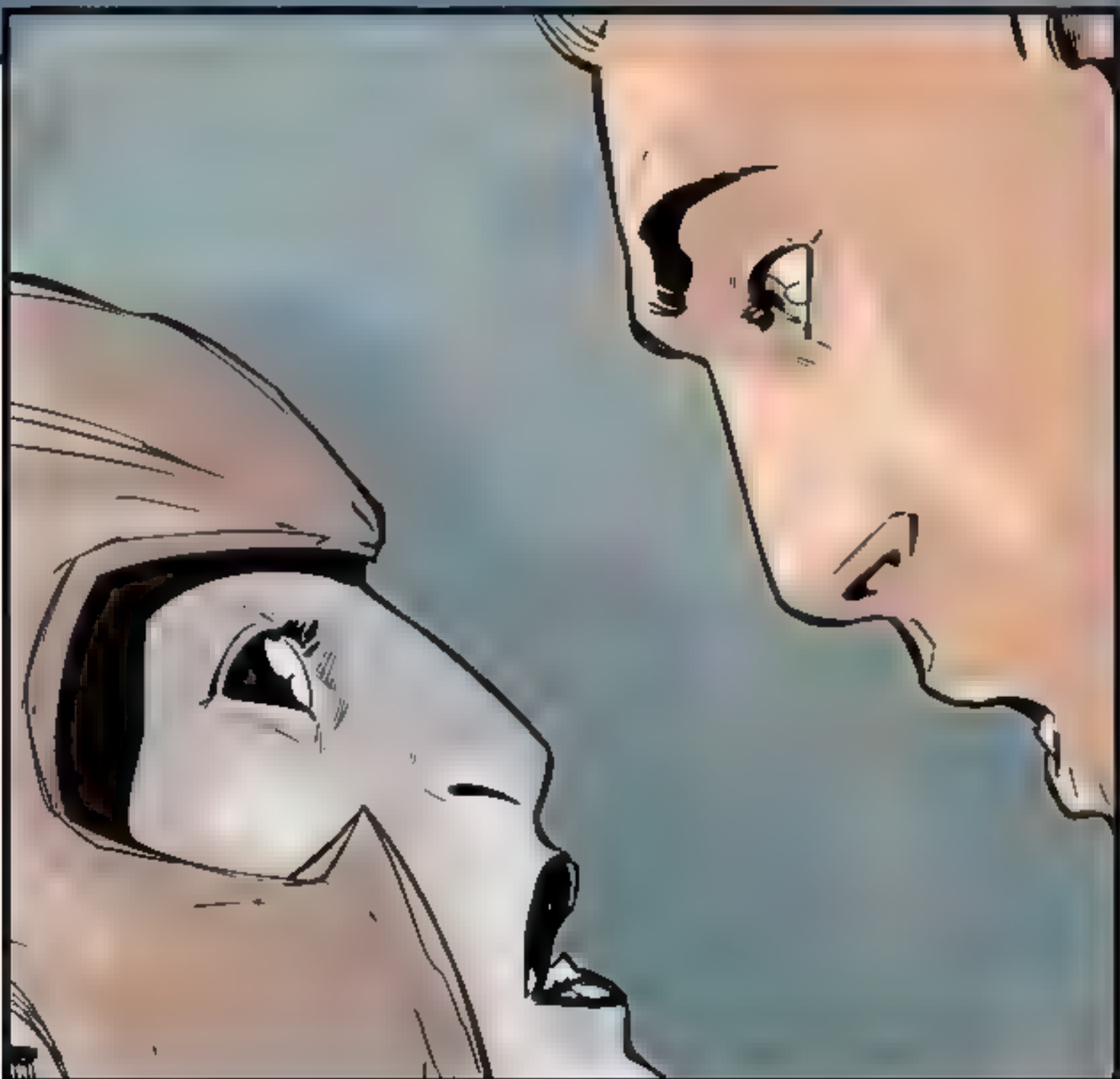
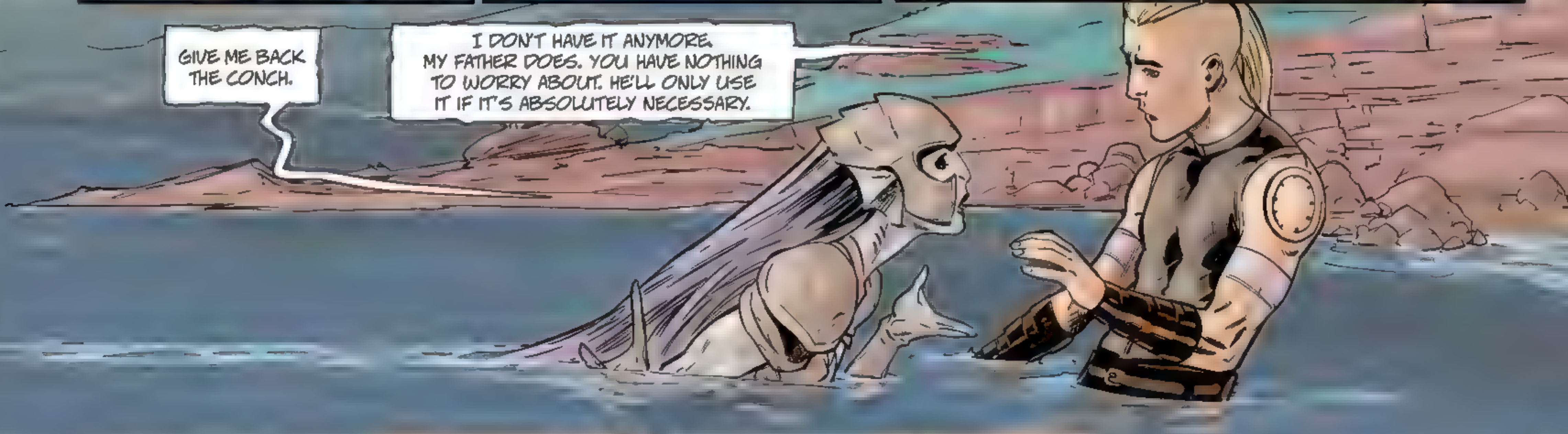
I AM NOTHING LIKE YOUR PITIFUL FEMALES!



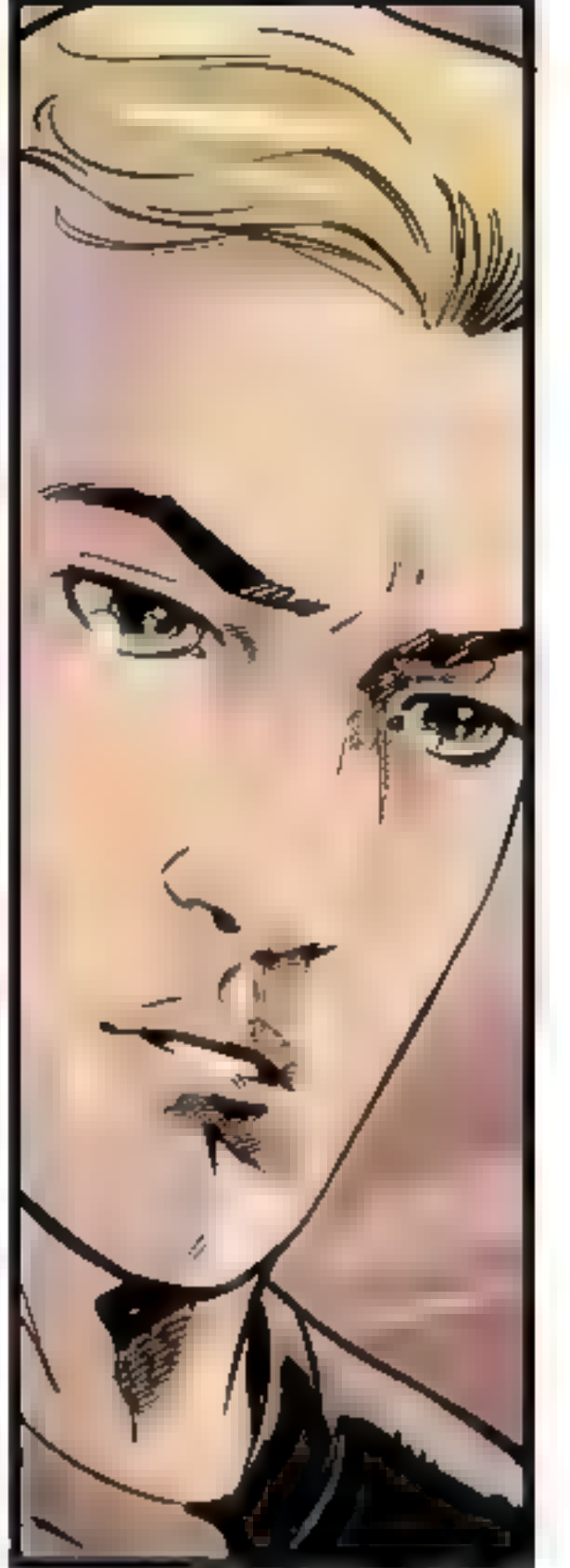
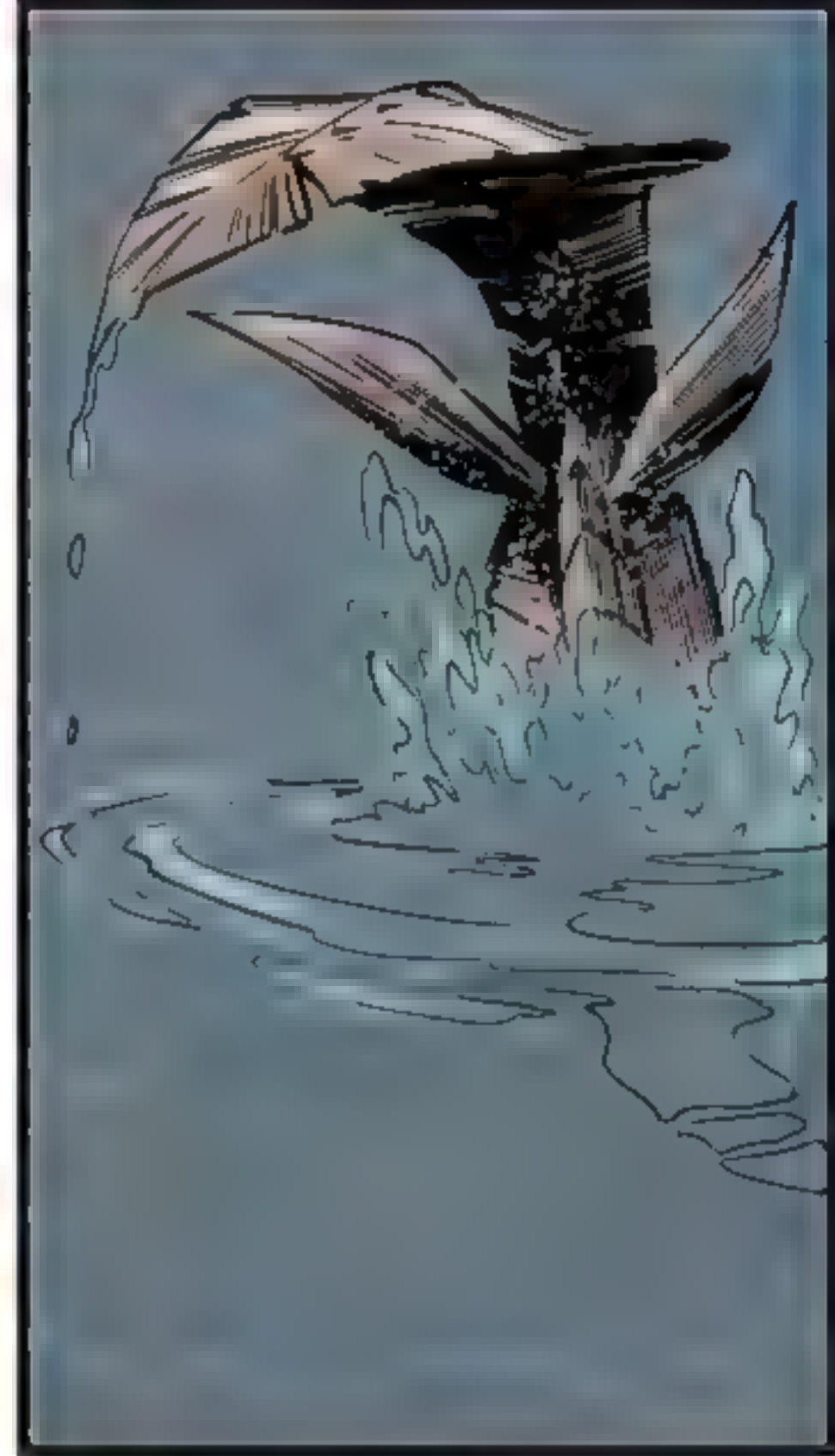
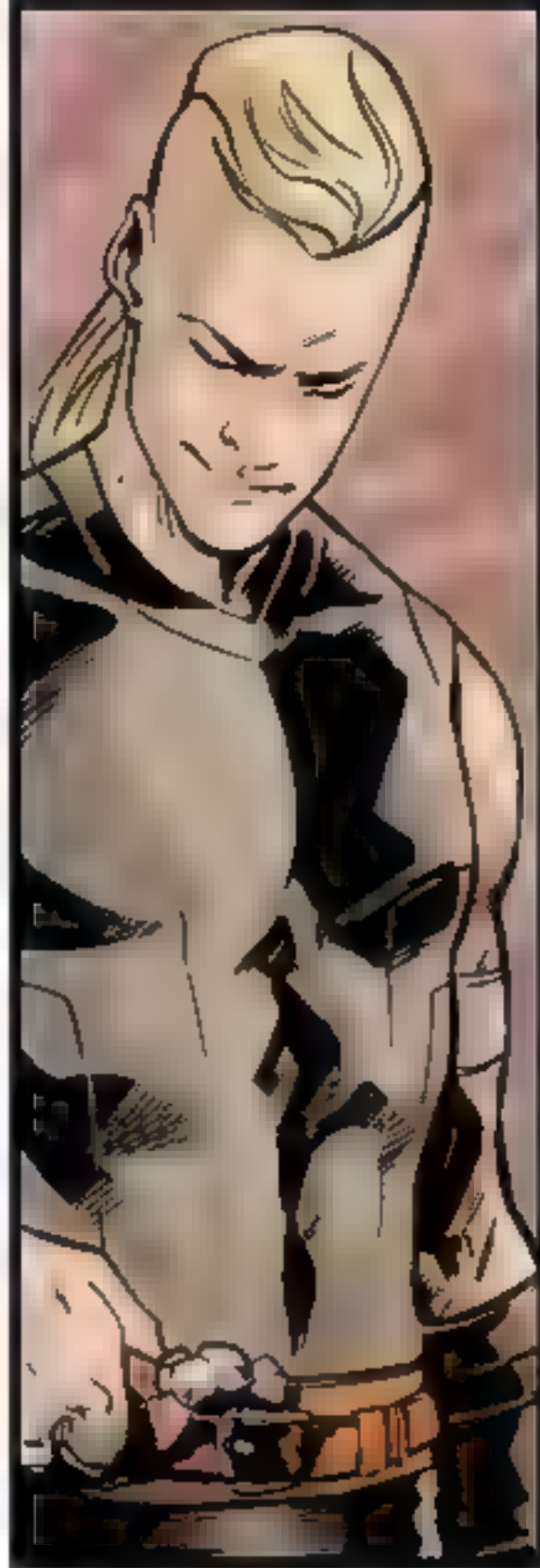
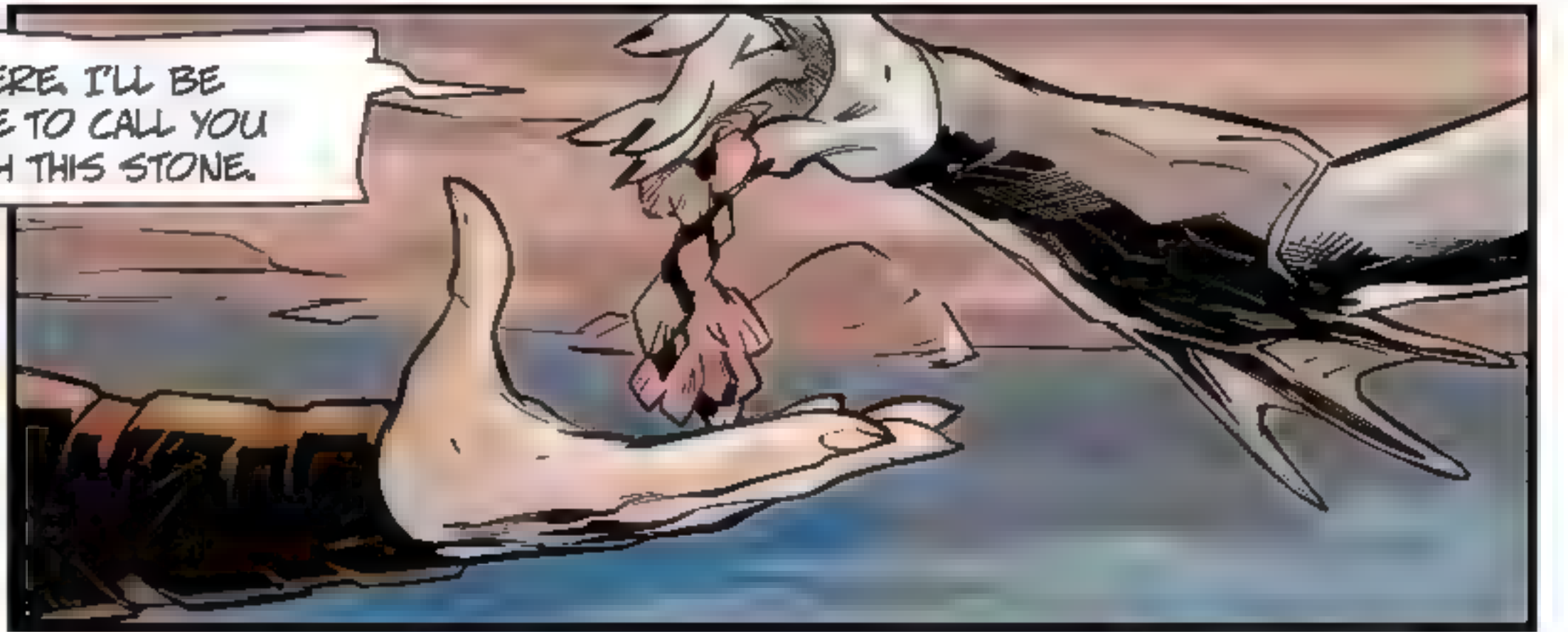
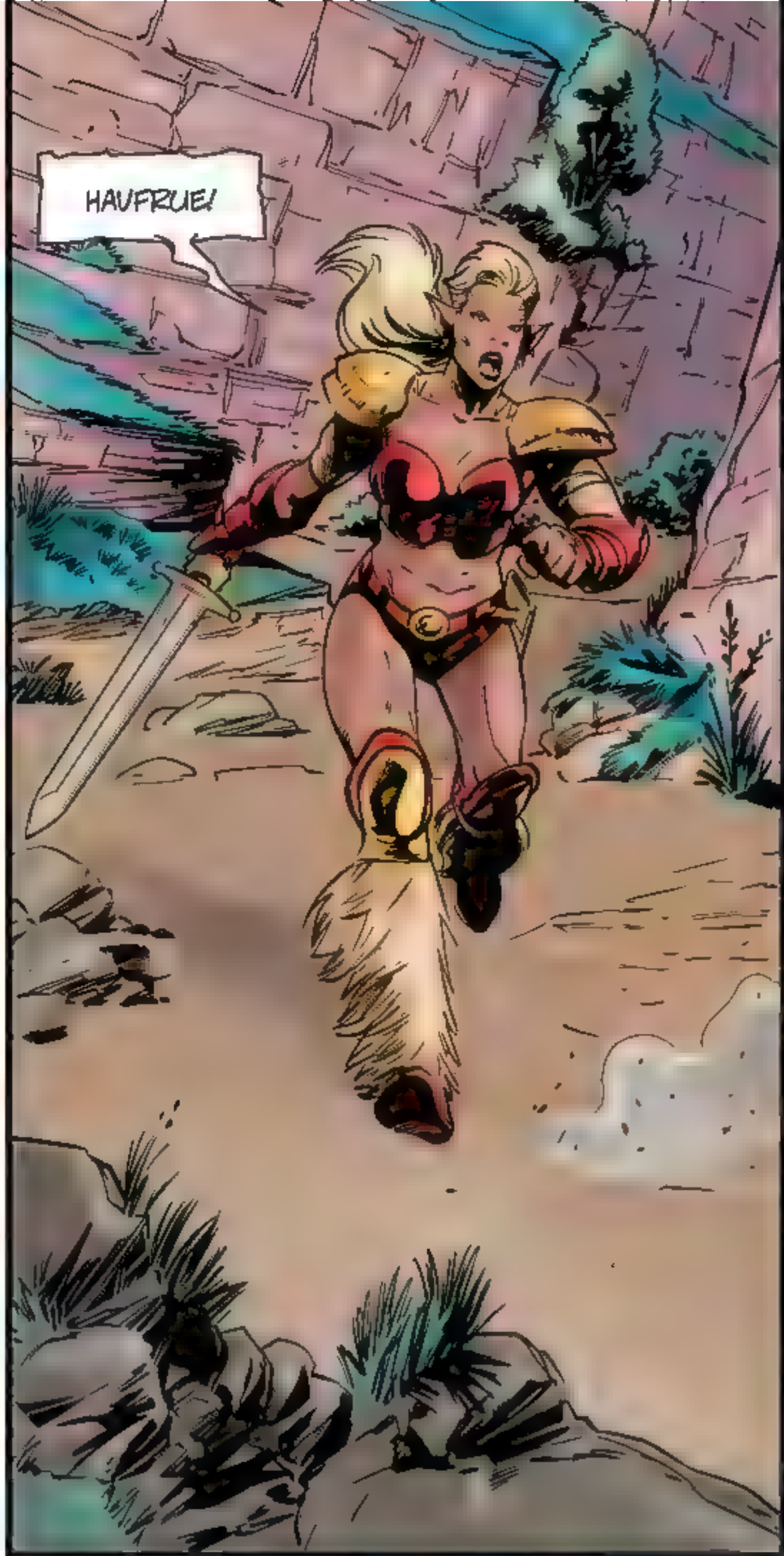
THAT'S TRUE. YOU GIVE OFF SOMETHING THEY DON'T HAVE. YOU'RE... BEWITCHING...

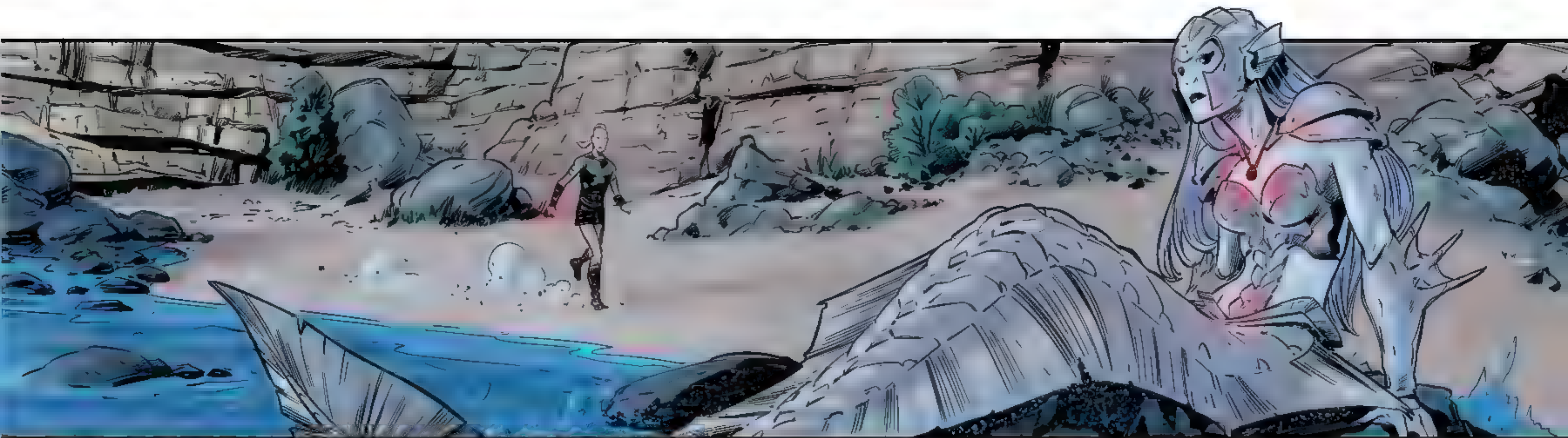
GIVE ME BACK THE CONCH.

I DON'T HAVE IT ANYMORE. MY FATHER DOES. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. HE'LL ONLY USE IT IF IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.



HAUFRUE!





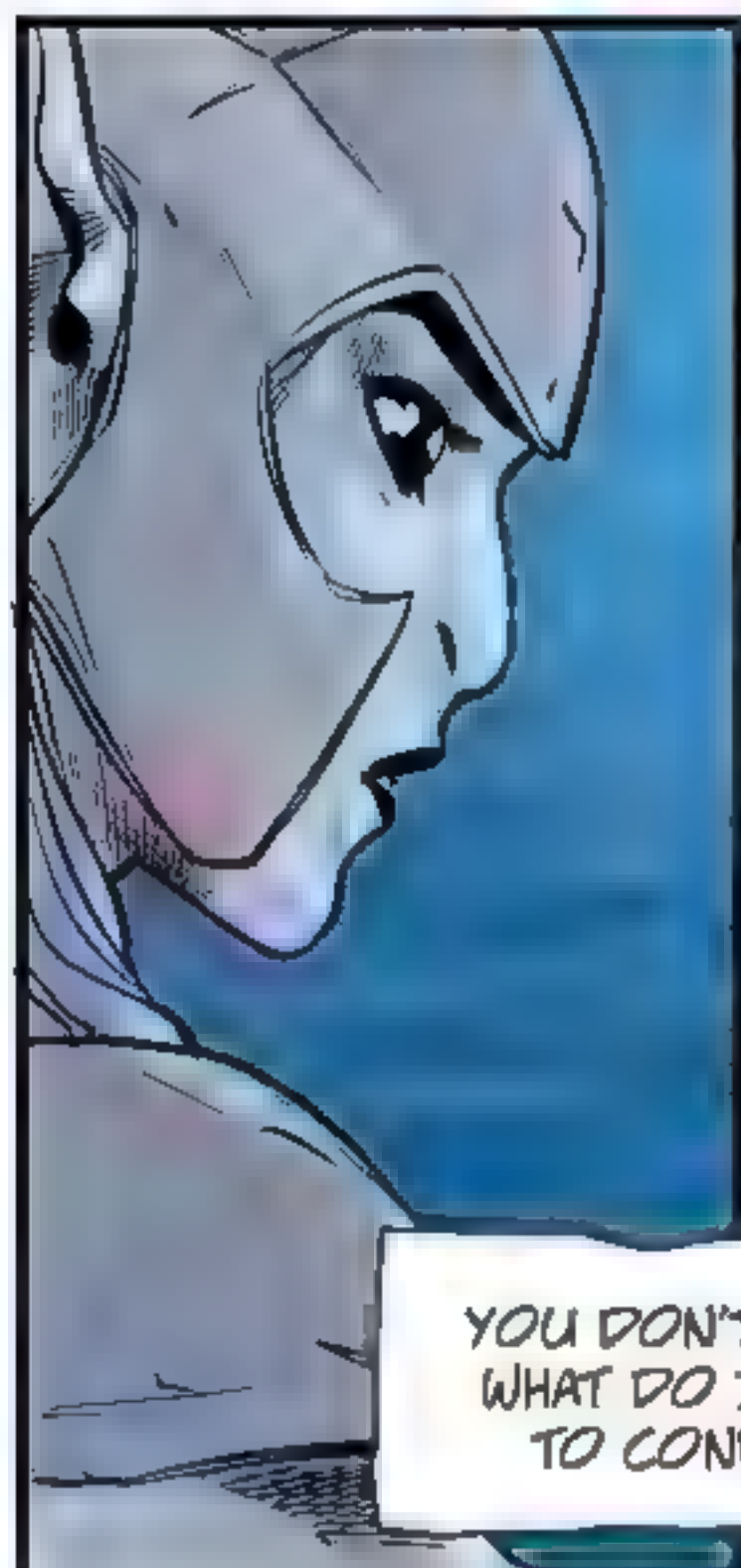
ALRIGHT, HERE I AM.
HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT
MY PROPOSAL?



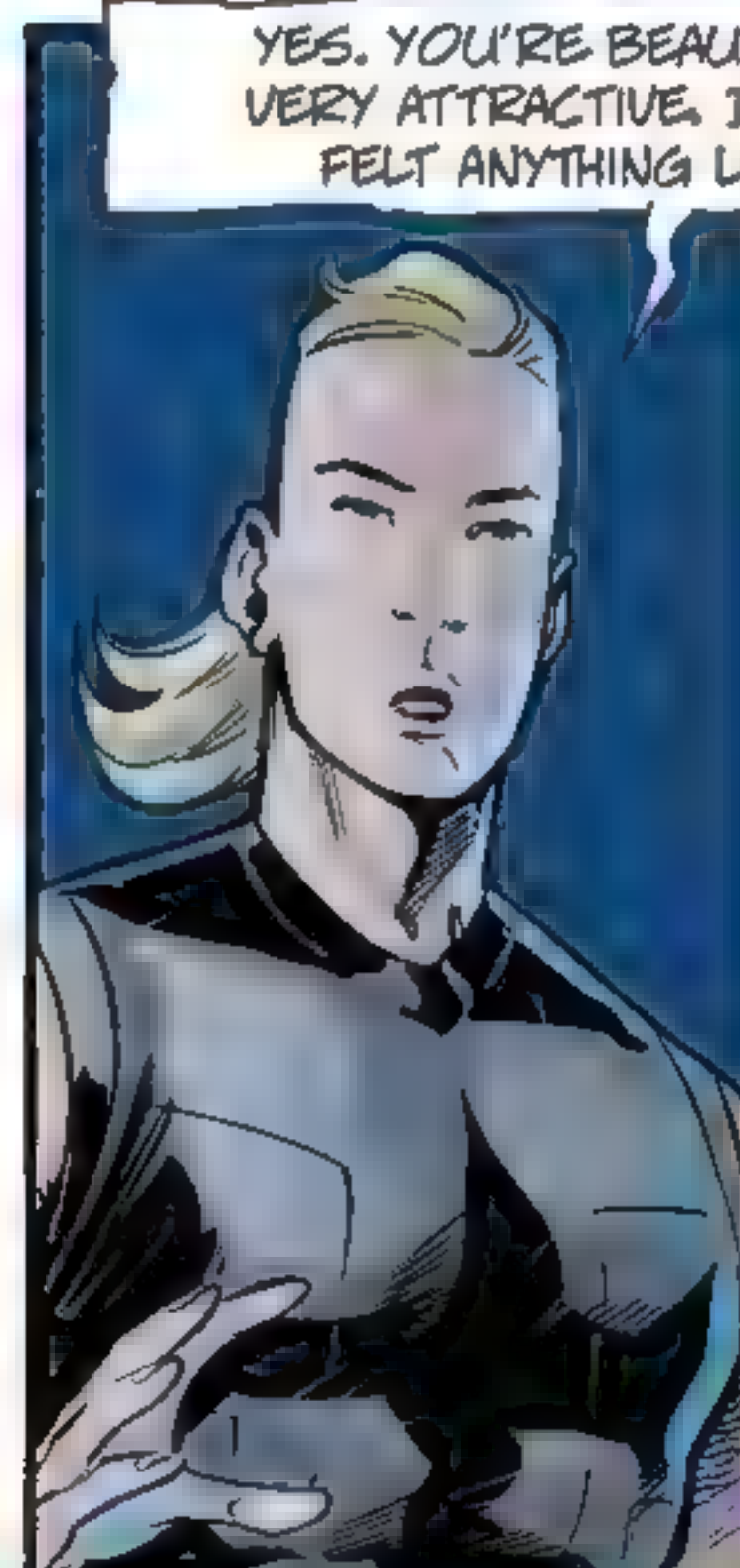
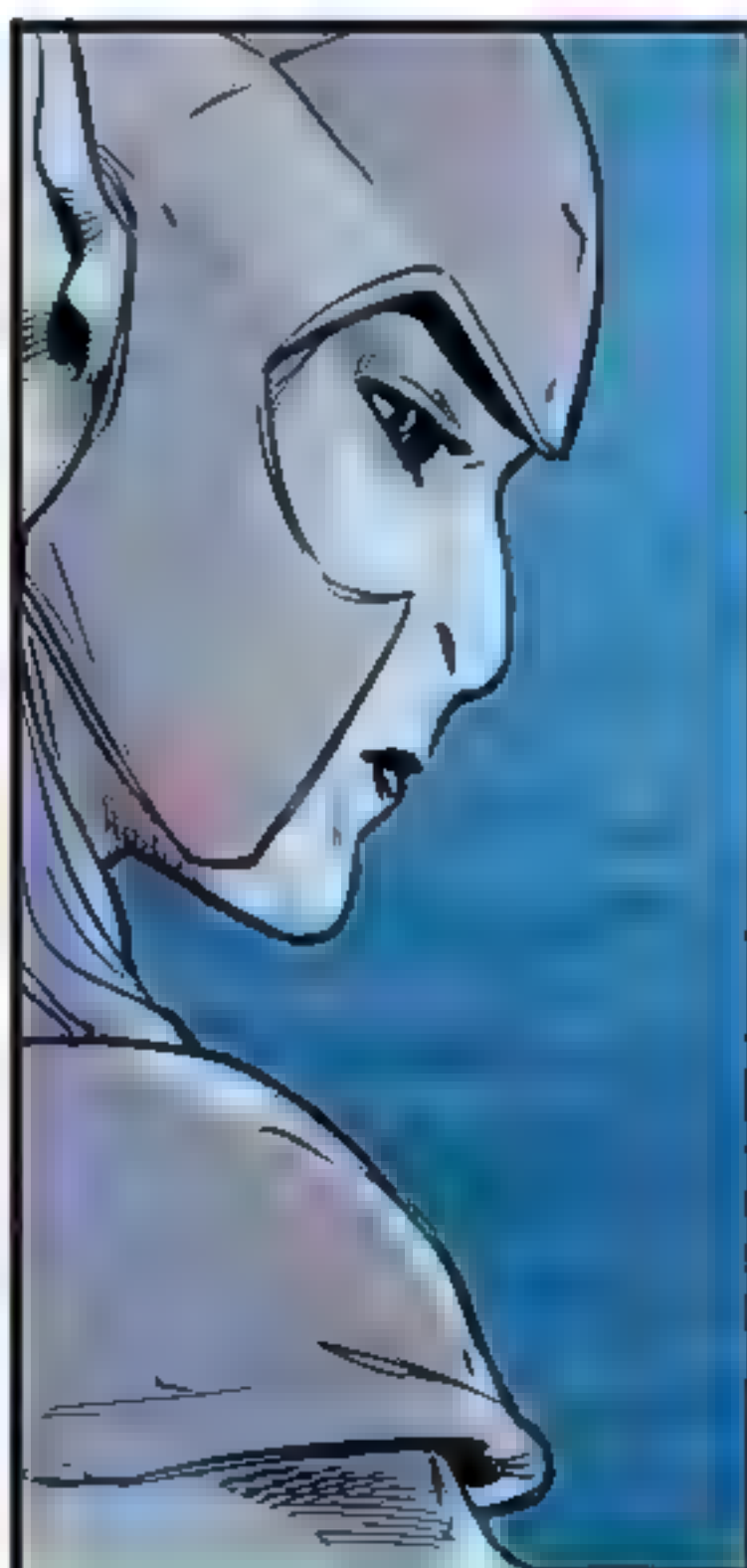
YOU'RE NOT LIKE OTHER
NORSE. YOUR WORDS ARE
SOUND AND YOU SEEM
SINCERE.



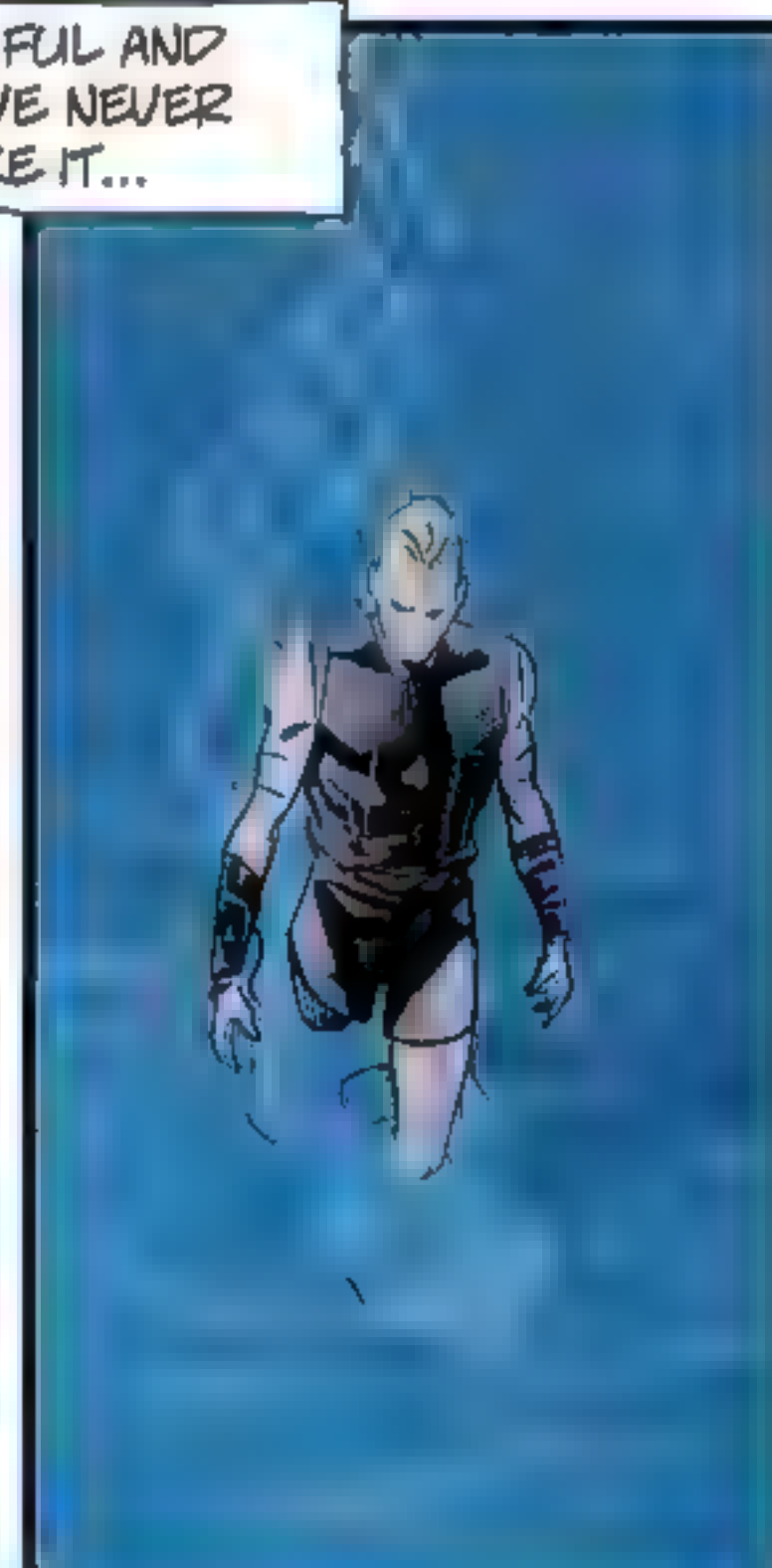
IS IT TRUE, THEN? YOU
FIND ME BEWITCHING?



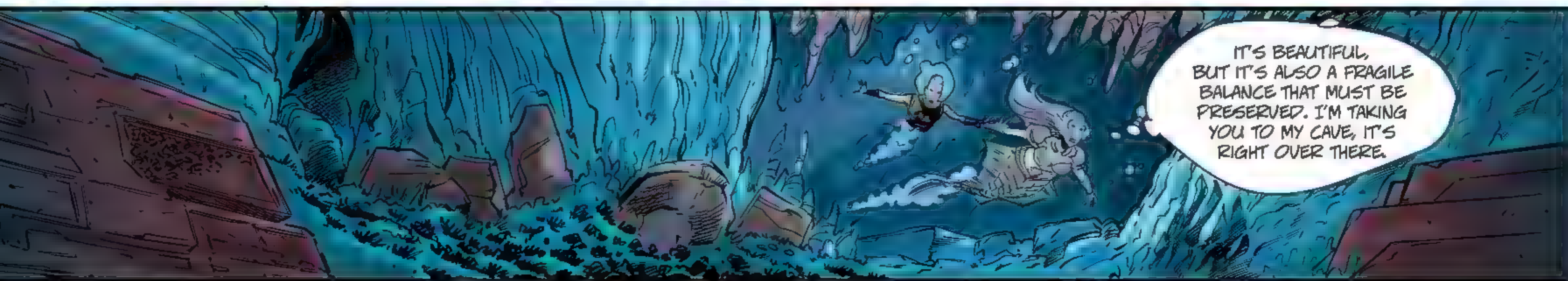
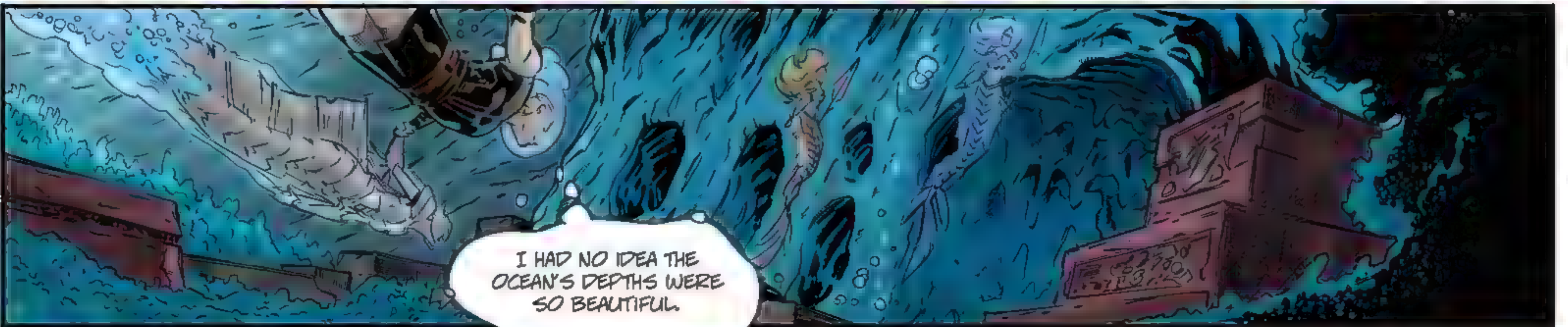
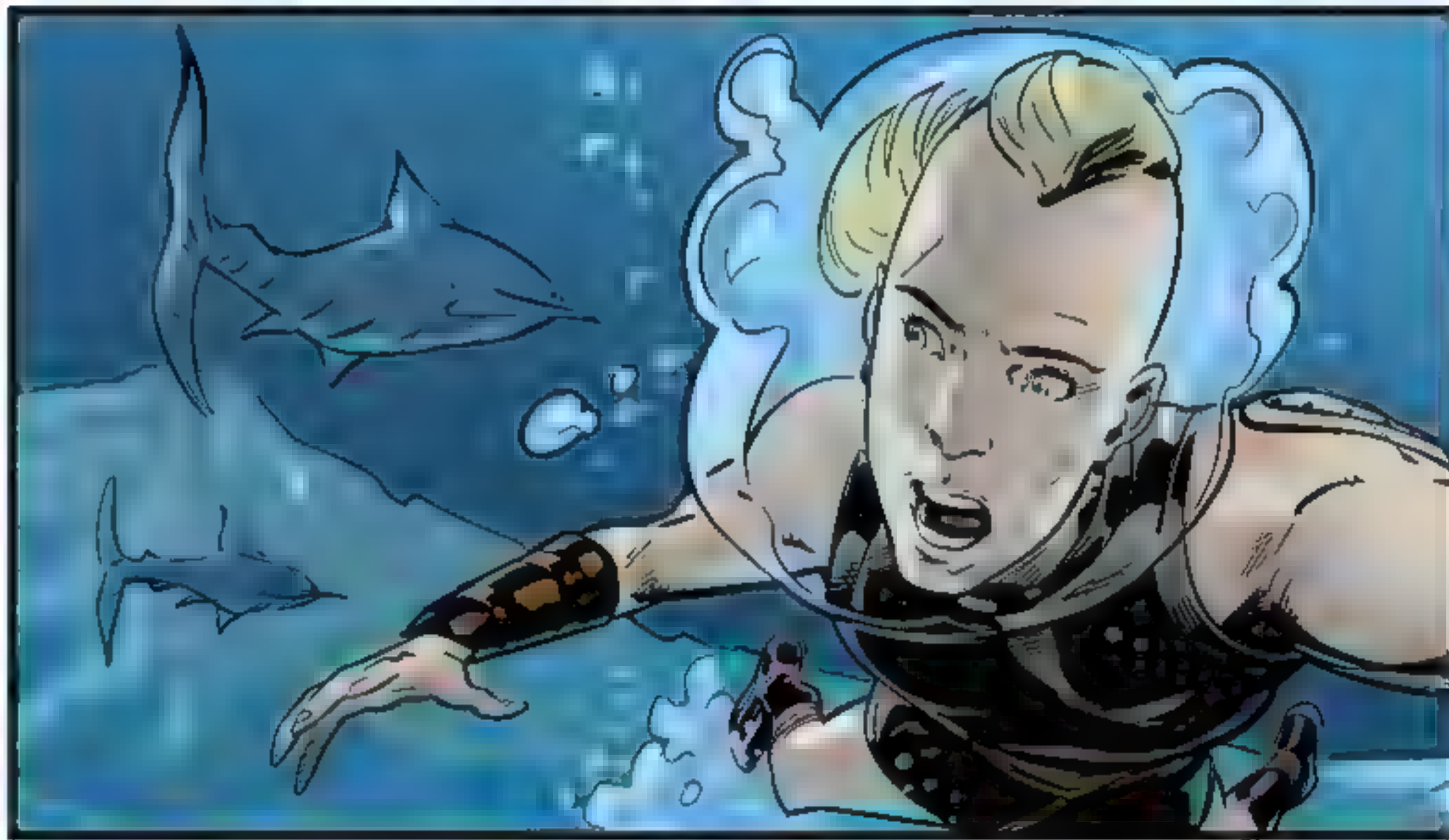
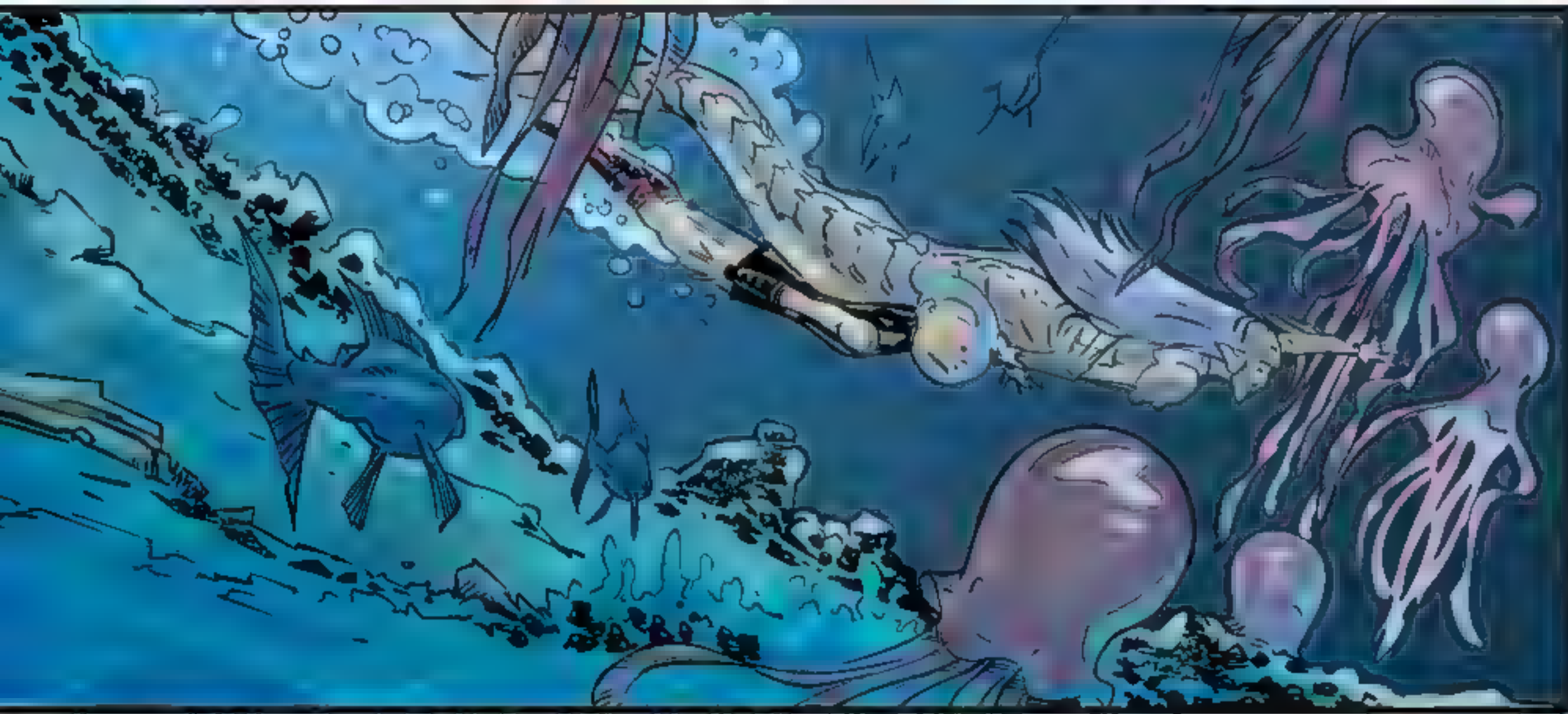
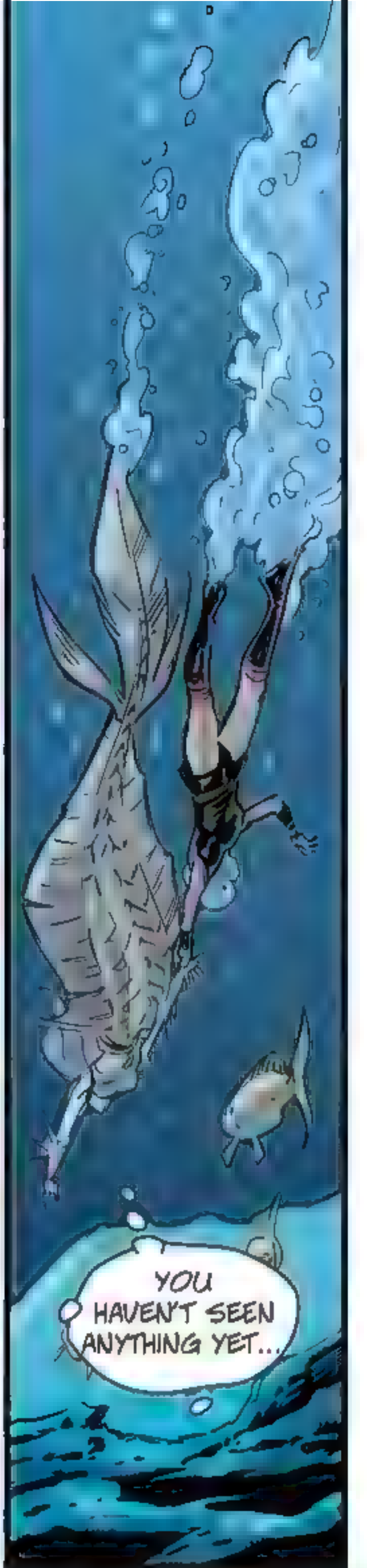
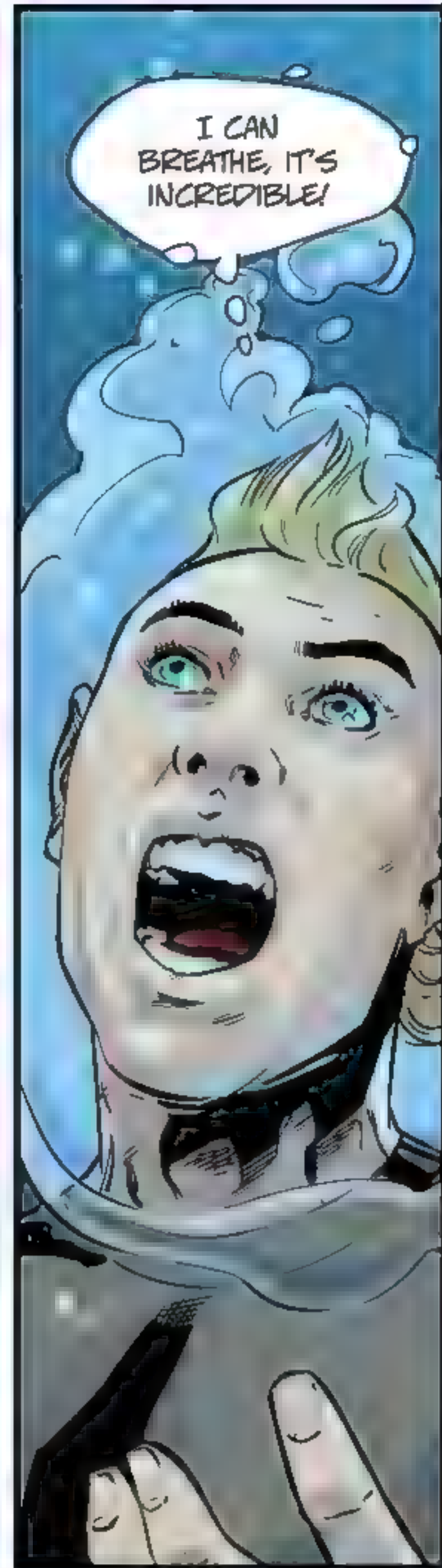
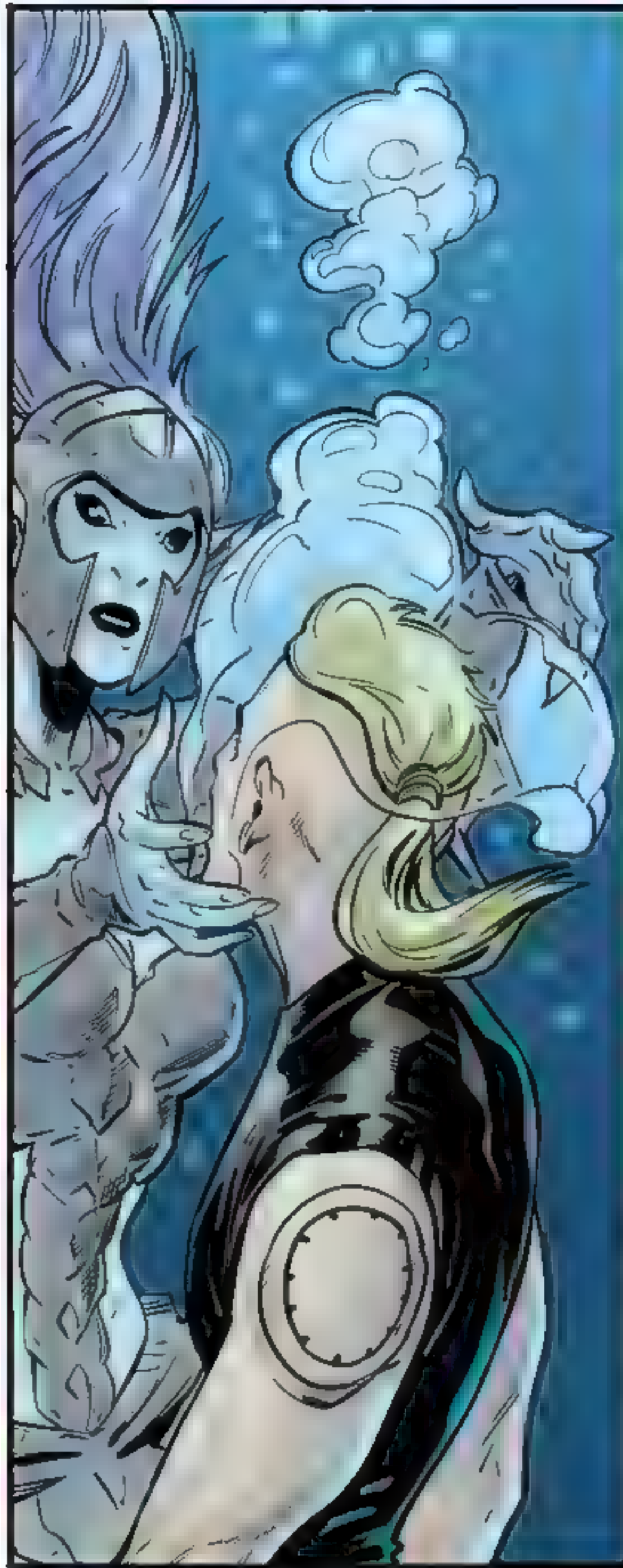
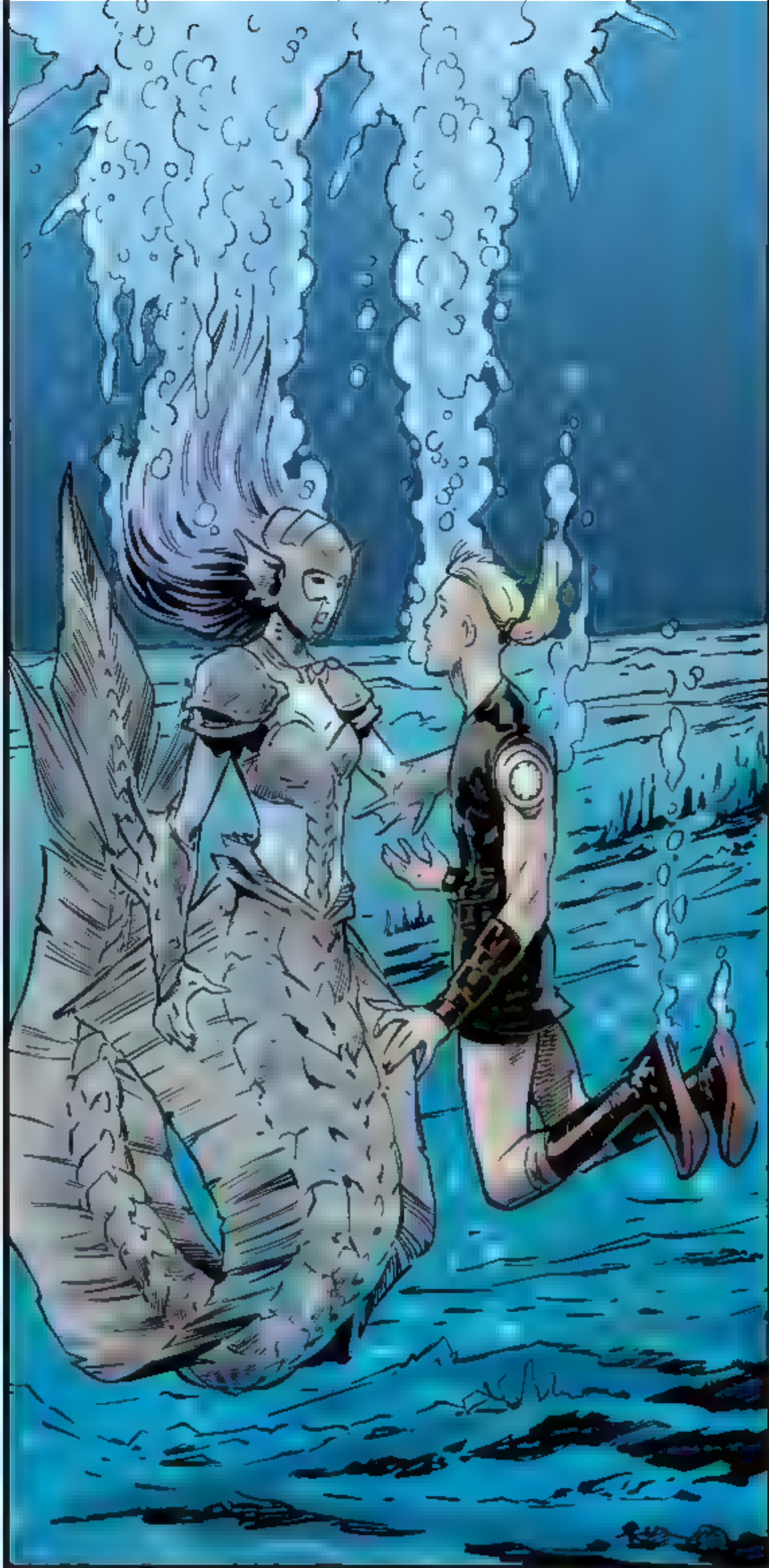
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?
WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO
TO CONVINCE YOU?

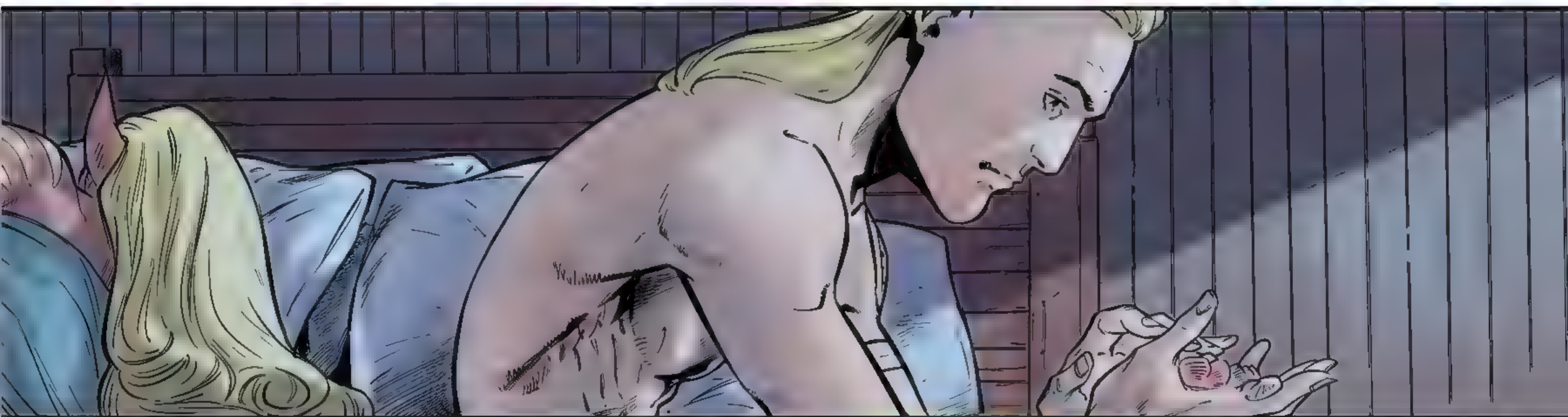
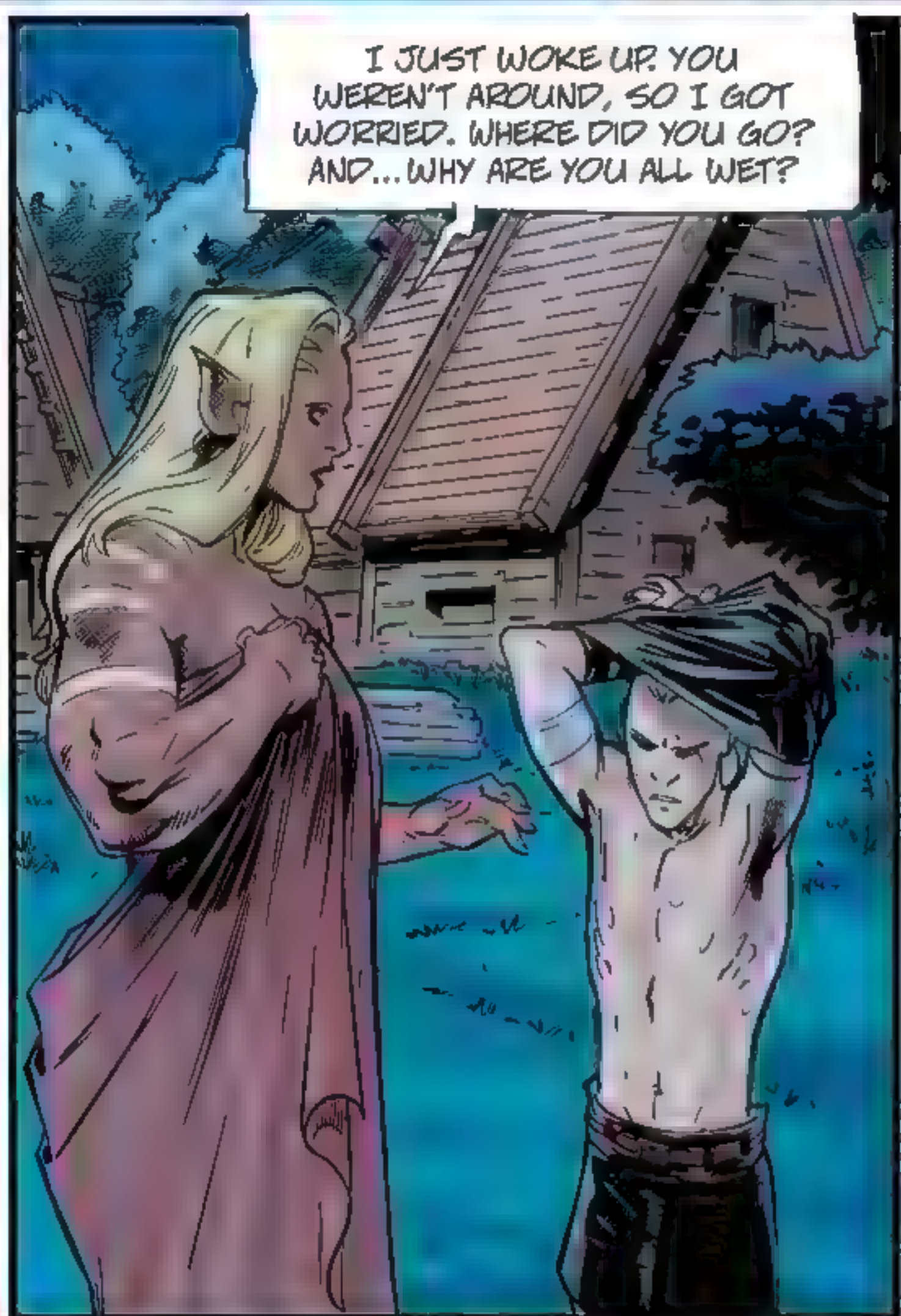
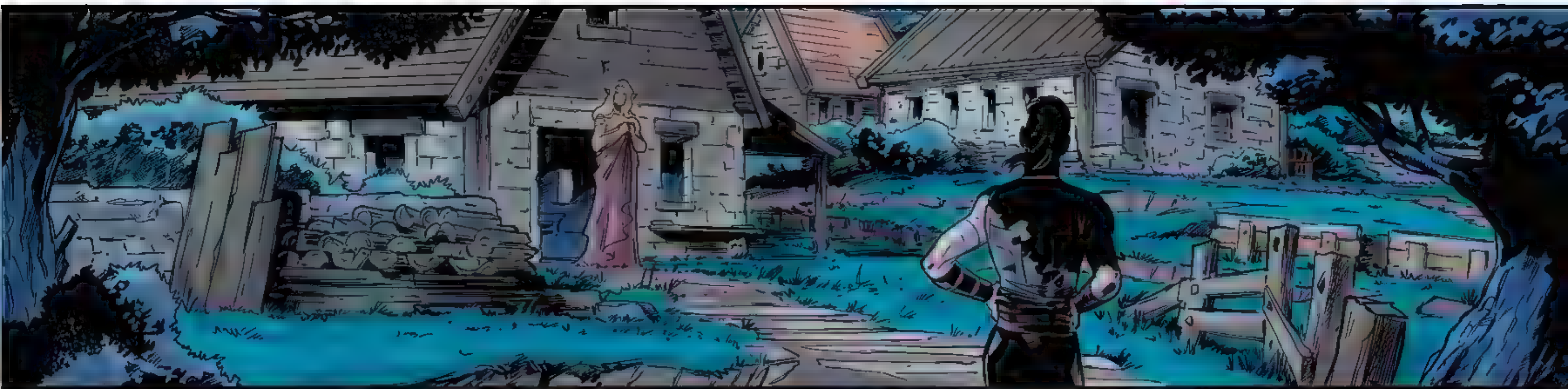


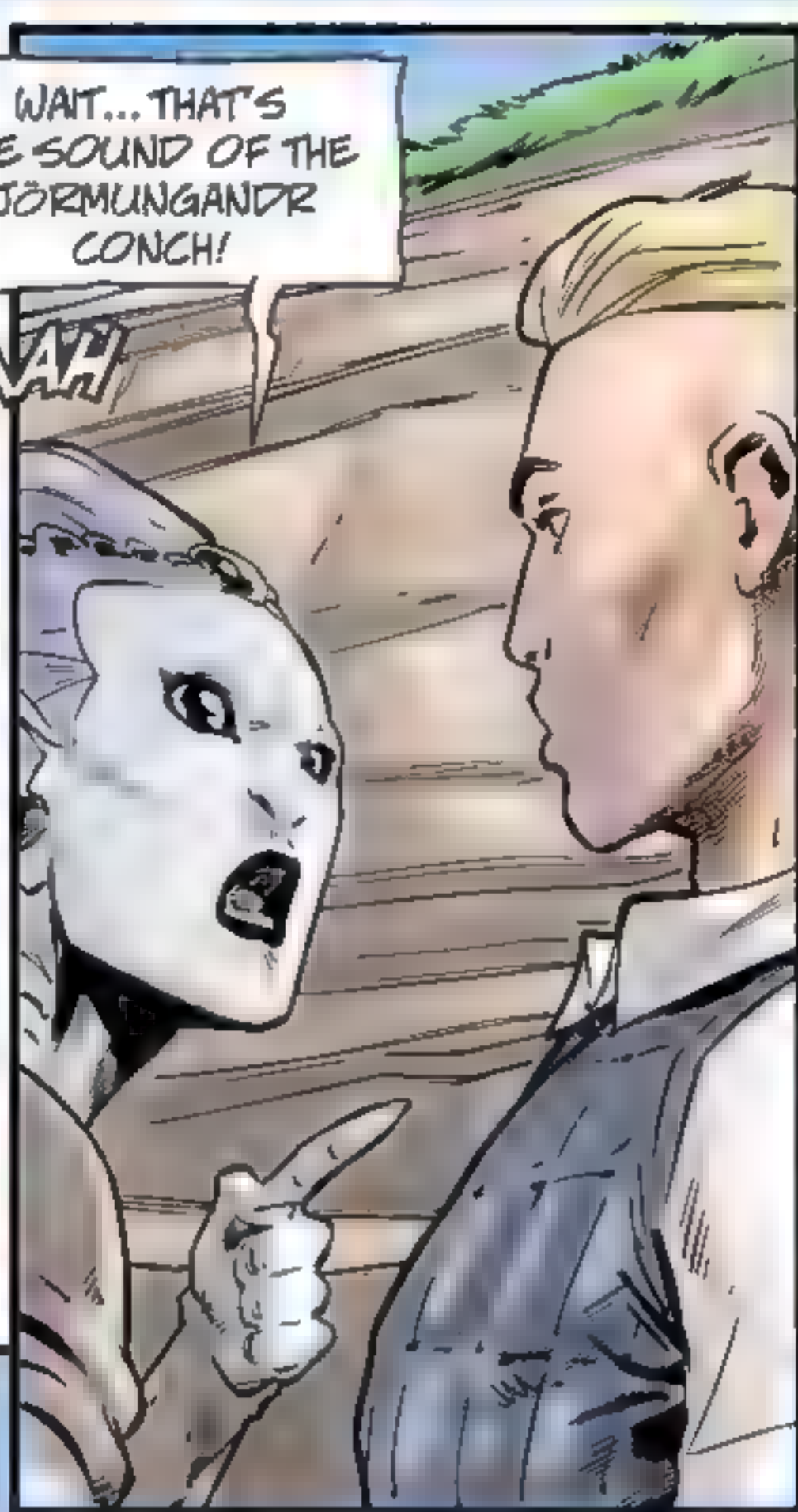
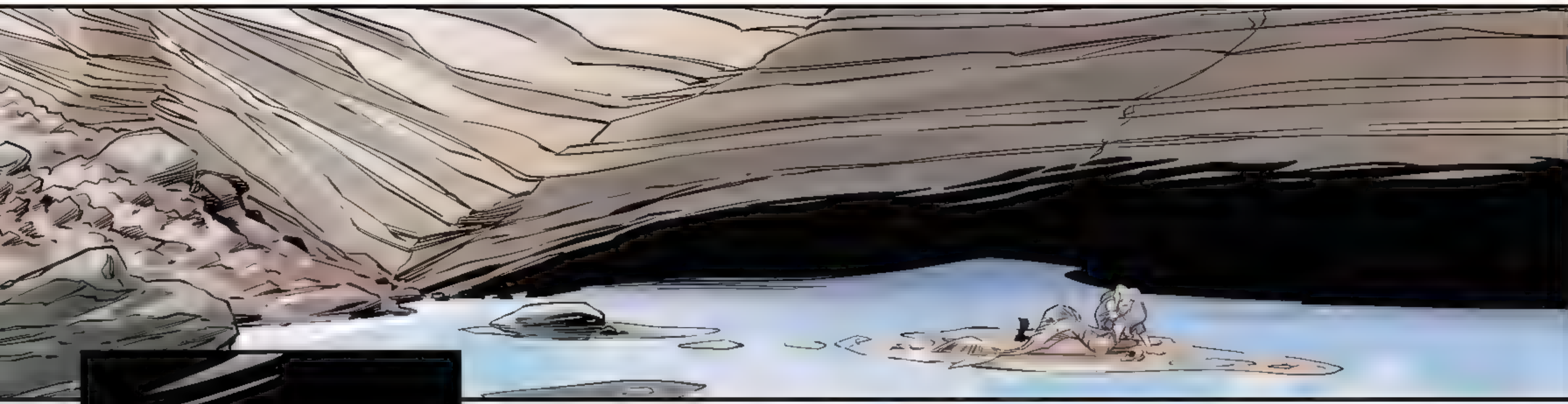
YES. YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL AND
VERY ATTRACTIVE. I'VE NEVER
FELT ANYTHING LIKE IT...



LOOK, I'M
TRUSTING YOU
WITH MY LIFE!







WAIT... THAT'S
THE SOUND OF THE
JÖRMUNGANDR
CONCH!

YOU ASSURED ME
YOU WOULDN'T USE IT.
DID YOU LIE TO ME?!

NO. I DON'T
KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON.
YOU HAVE TO
TRUST ME, I'LL
SORT THIS OUT.



BRRRRRRRRRRRROOOOOO

[illegible]

YOU HAVE TO STOP RIGHT AWAY. JORMUNGANDR IS TOO DANGEROUS!

DON'T WORRY, SON. I'M JUST LEARNING TO TAME HIM. THAT WAY, IF THOSE CREATURES COME AFTER US, I'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO GIVE THEM A RUN FOR THEIR MONEY.

WHY DOES OUR CLAN
THINK THE SIRENS ARE
ANIMALS? THEY AREN'T!
THEY'RE JUST LIKE US:
THEY TALK, THEY FEEL,
THEY THINK...



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE SIRENS ARE MONSTERS,
THEY SLAUGHTER SAILORS.



THAT'S WHAT THE ELDERS CLAIMED. IN REALITY, ALL THEY DID WAS DEFEND THEMSELVES AND PROTECT THEIR TERRITORY. JUST LIKE ANYONE WOULD. IF OUR FISHERMEN HADN'T KILLED SIRENS, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE CALLED ON JÖRMUNGANDR.

THE FISHERMEN KILLED WHAT THEY THOUGHT WERE FISH OR SEALS.

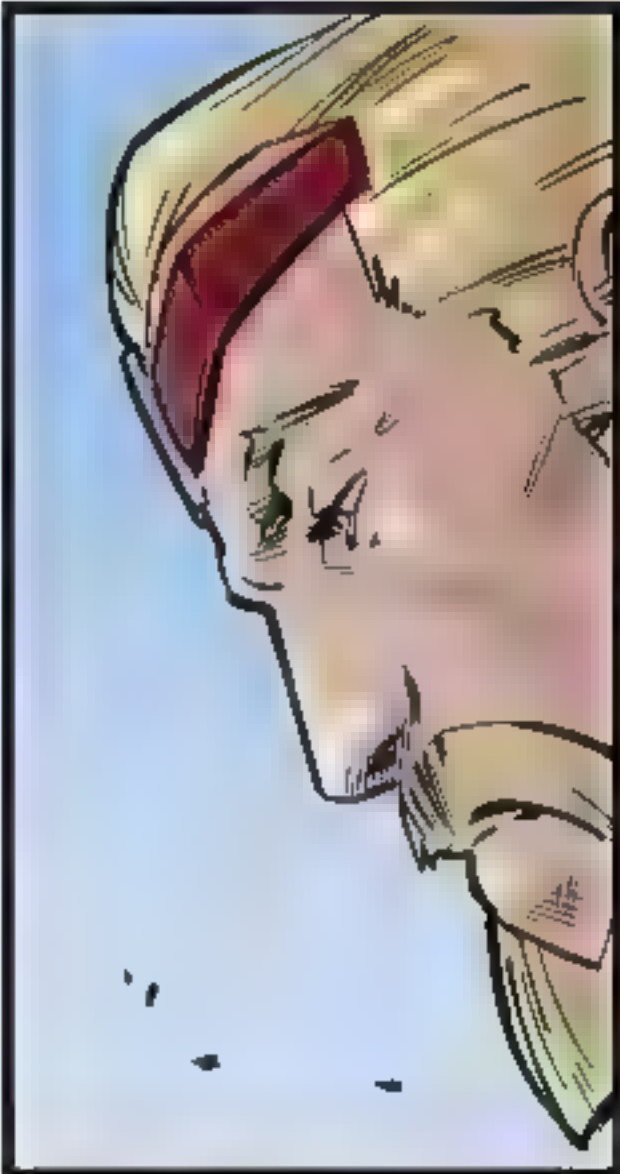


BUT THAT'S *NOT* WHAT THEY ARE! WE NEED TO STOP THIS UNNECESSARY VIOLENCE AGAINST THEM.



HMM...IT ALSO HAS TO BE MUTUAL. I IMAGINE YOU ALREADY HAVE SOMETHING IN MIND.

A TRUCE.



IT'LL BE MUCH SAFER TO SAIL ON PEACEFUL WATERS THAN TO NAVIGATE THE SEA WHILE TRYING TO CONTROL THIS MONSTER. ONE WRONG MOVE WITH THE CONCH AND JÖRMUNGANDR WILL TURN AGAINST US.

THAT'S WHY I'M LEARNING HOW TO CONTROL IT...



HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED? AS THE MAN WHO PERPETUATED AN ABSURD, CENTURIES-OLD CONFLICT...OR THE FIRST JARL TO PUT AN END TO IT?



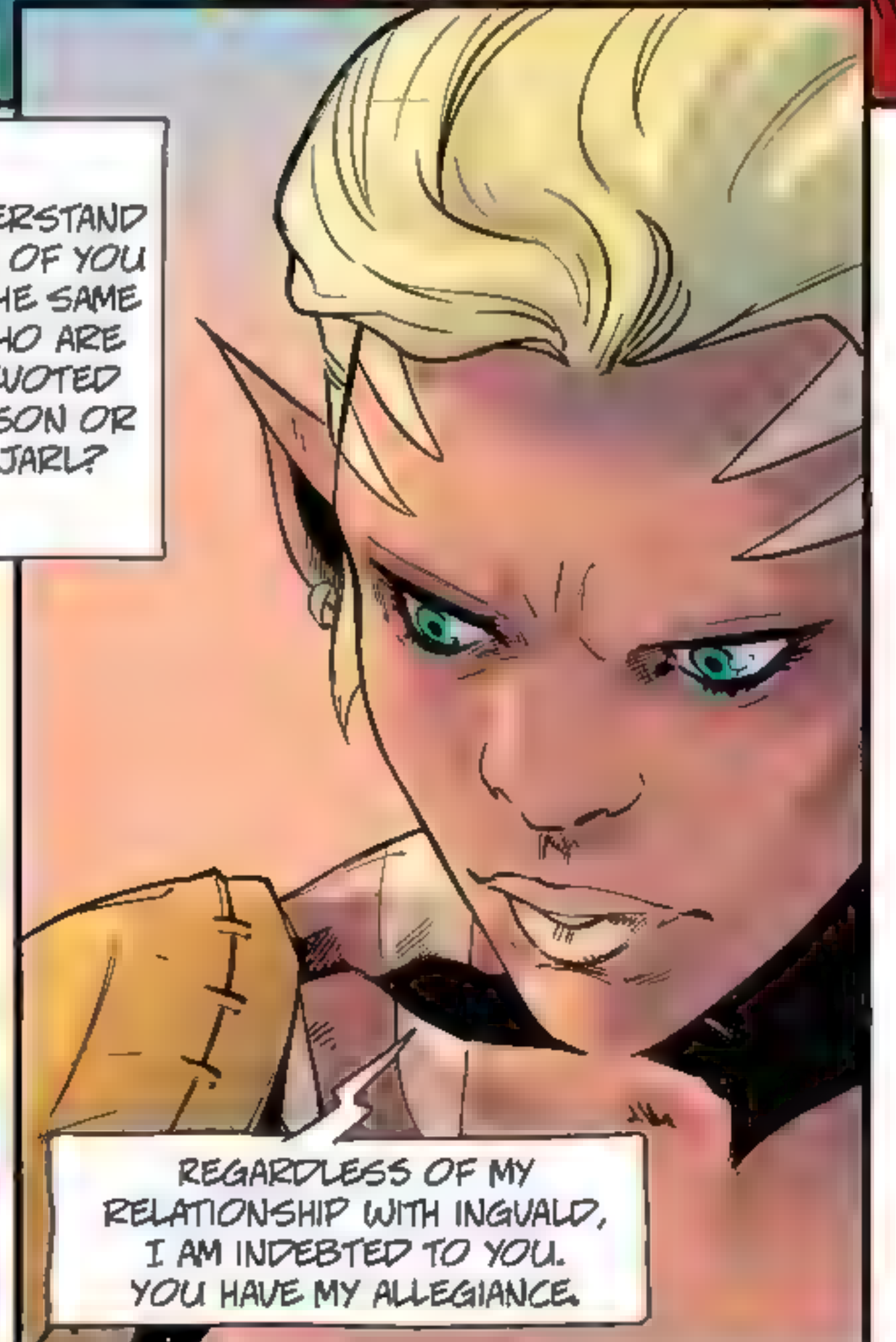
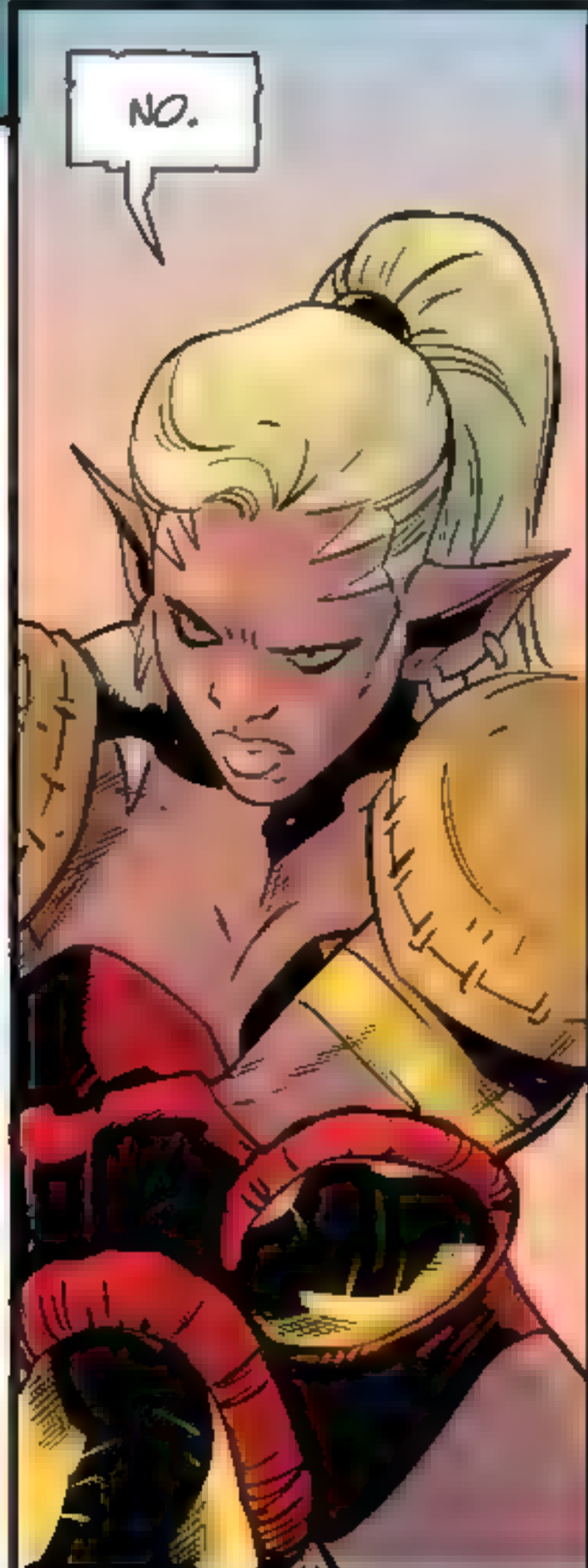
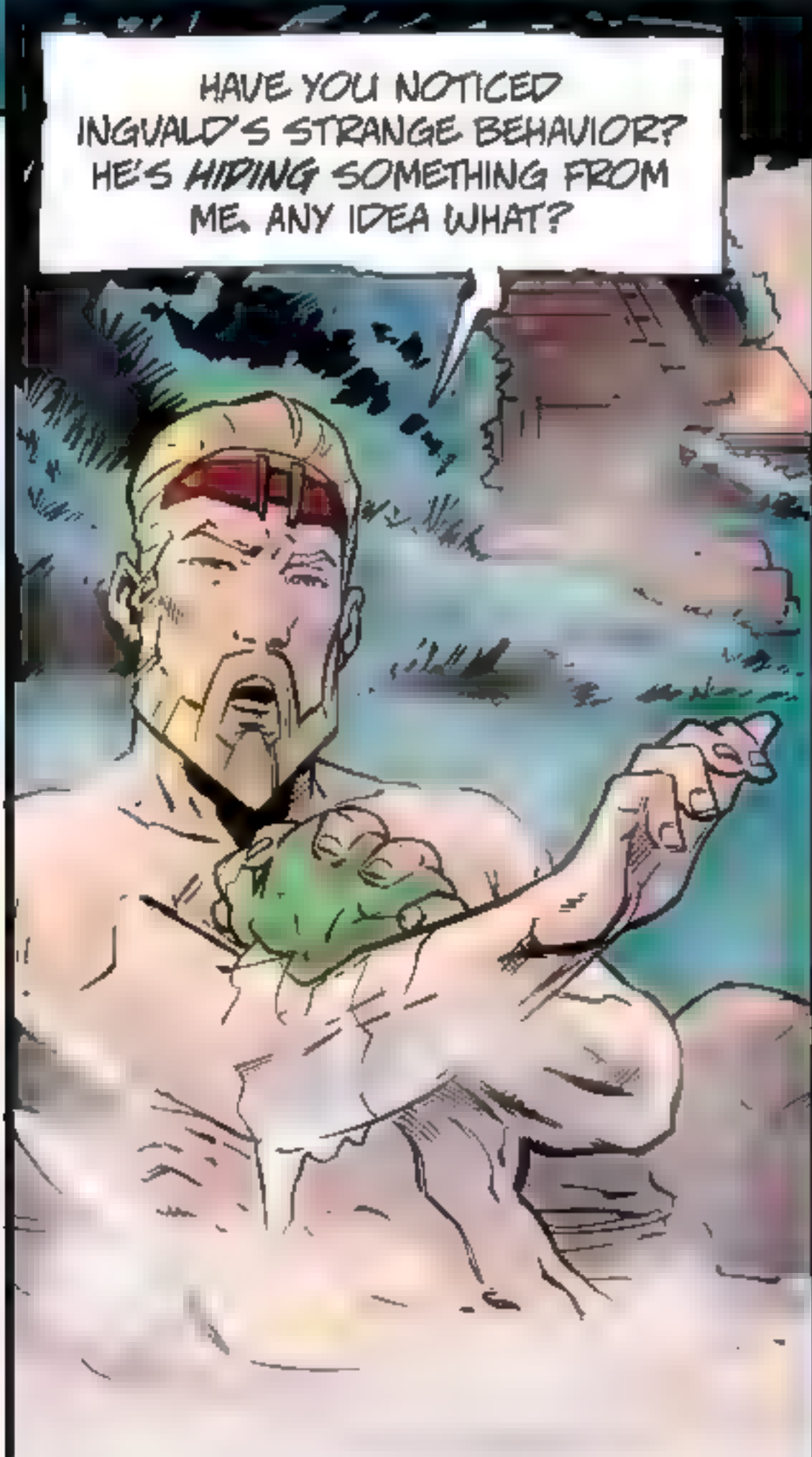
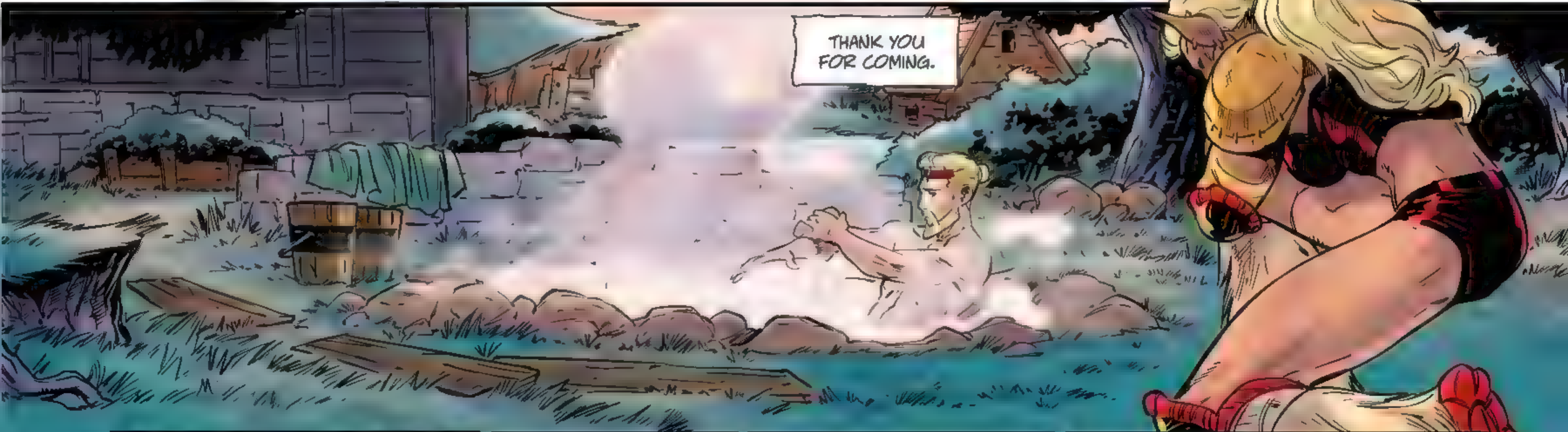
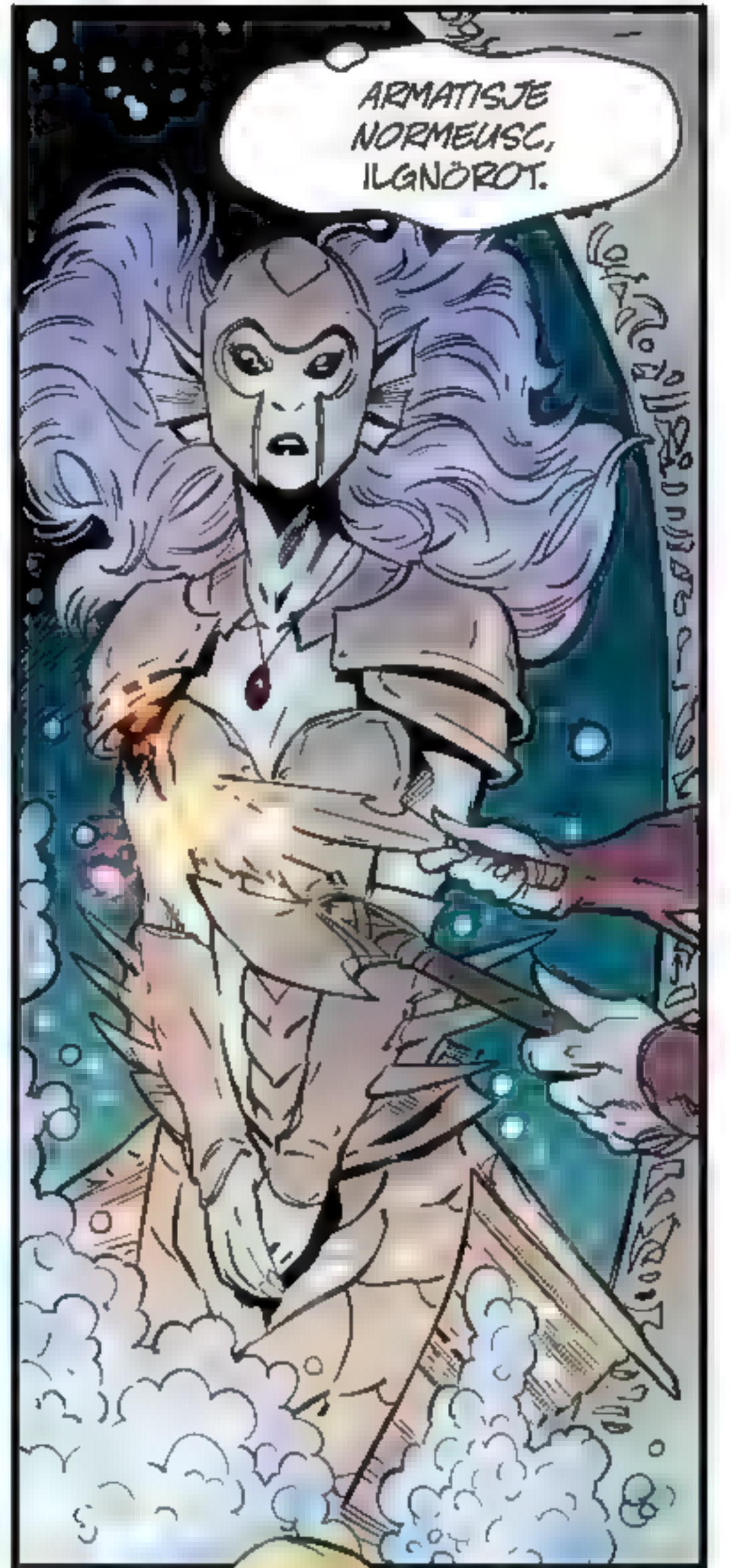
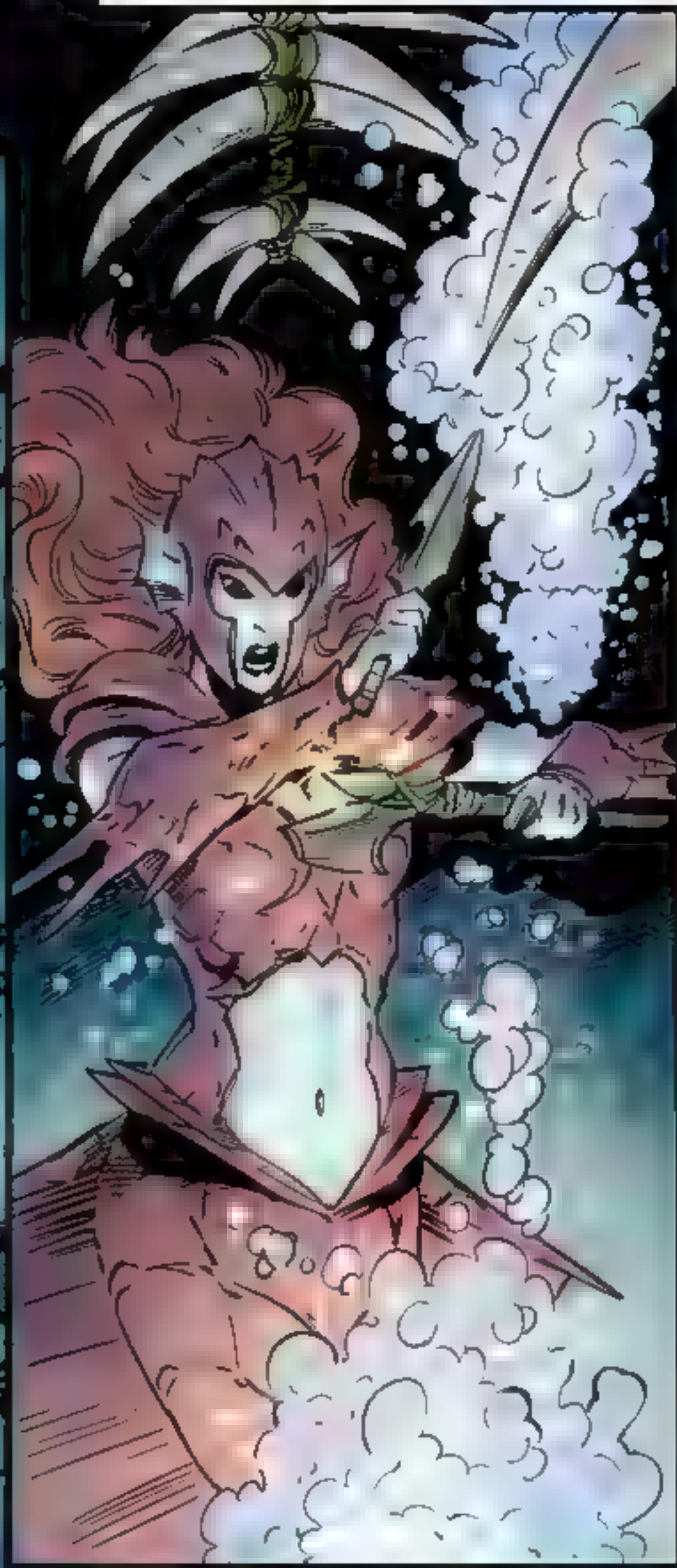
WE SHOULD ARRANGE A MEETING TO PARLEY WITH THE SIRENS AS WE WOULD WITH ANY HUMAN ENEMY.

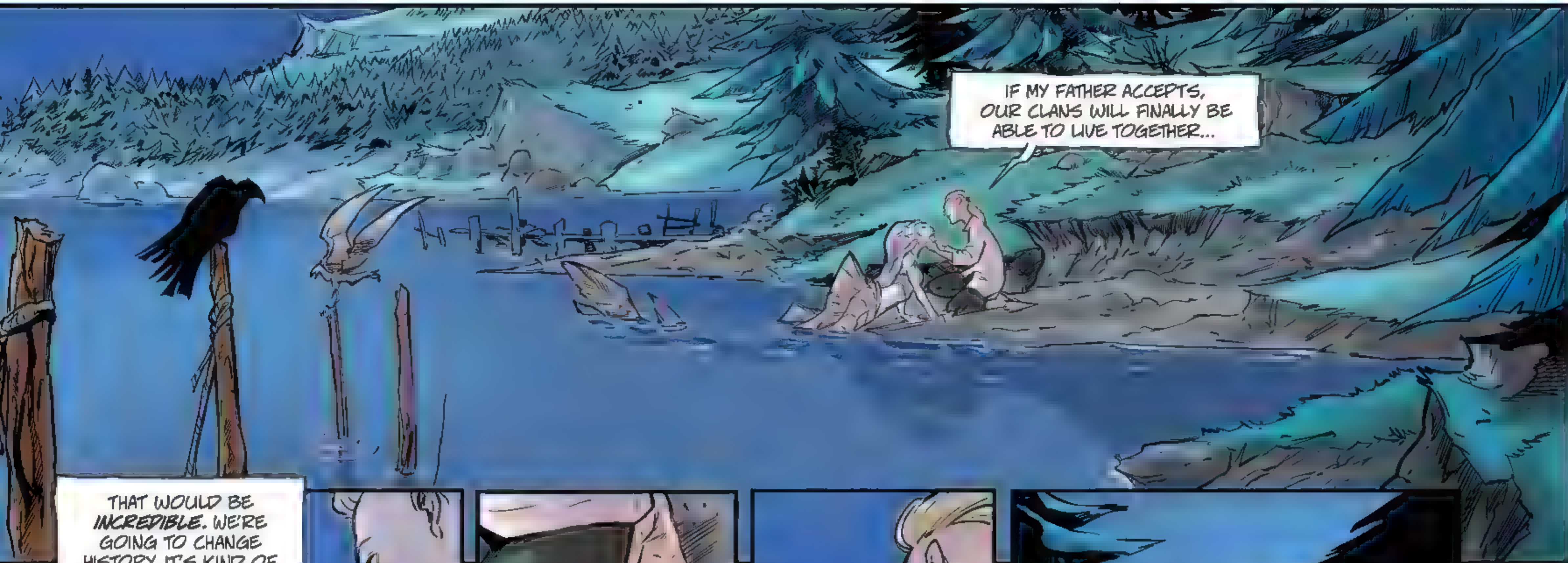


FINE. LET'S TALK. BUT WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, KNOW THAT THEY'RE *NEVER* GETTING THE CONCH BACK.

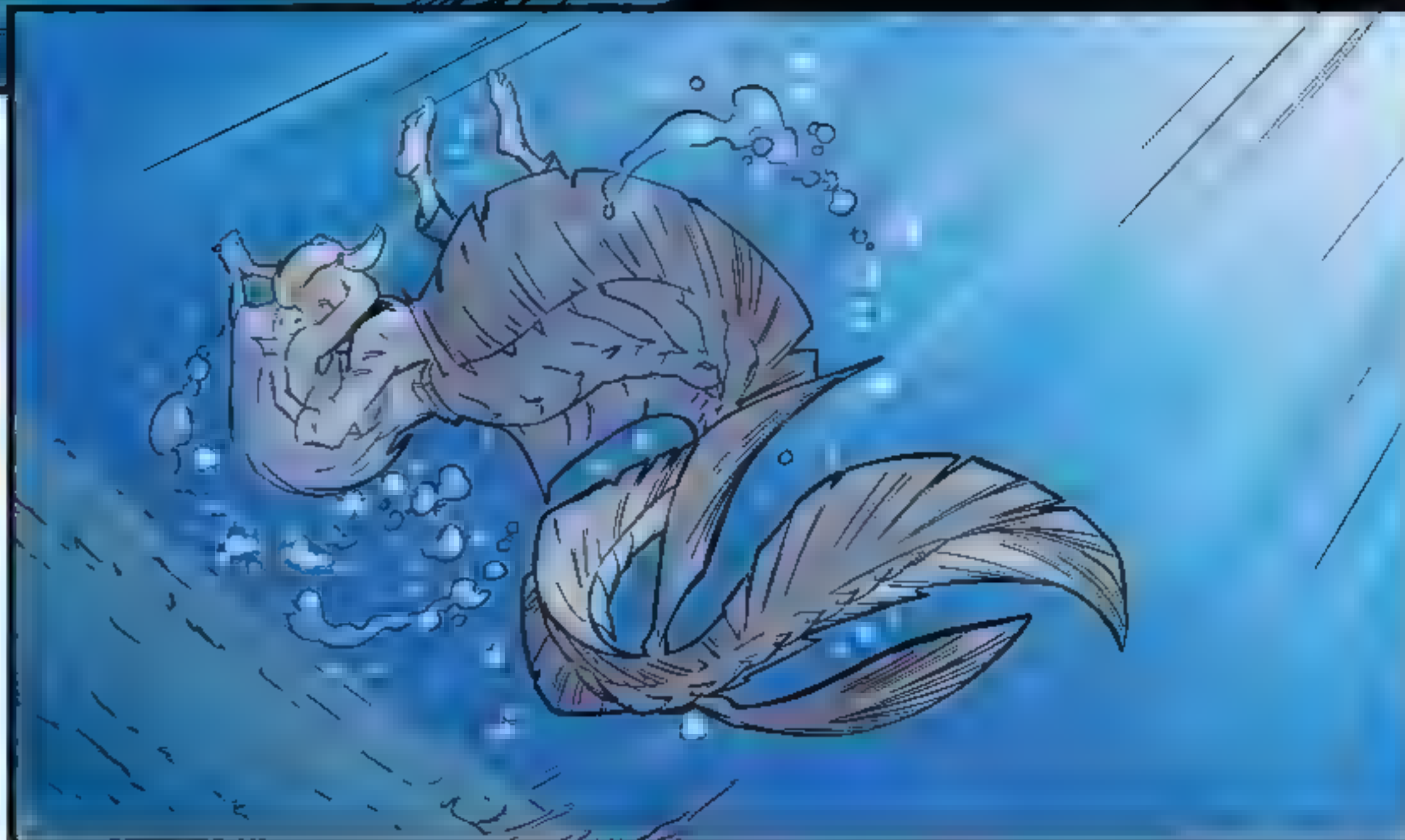
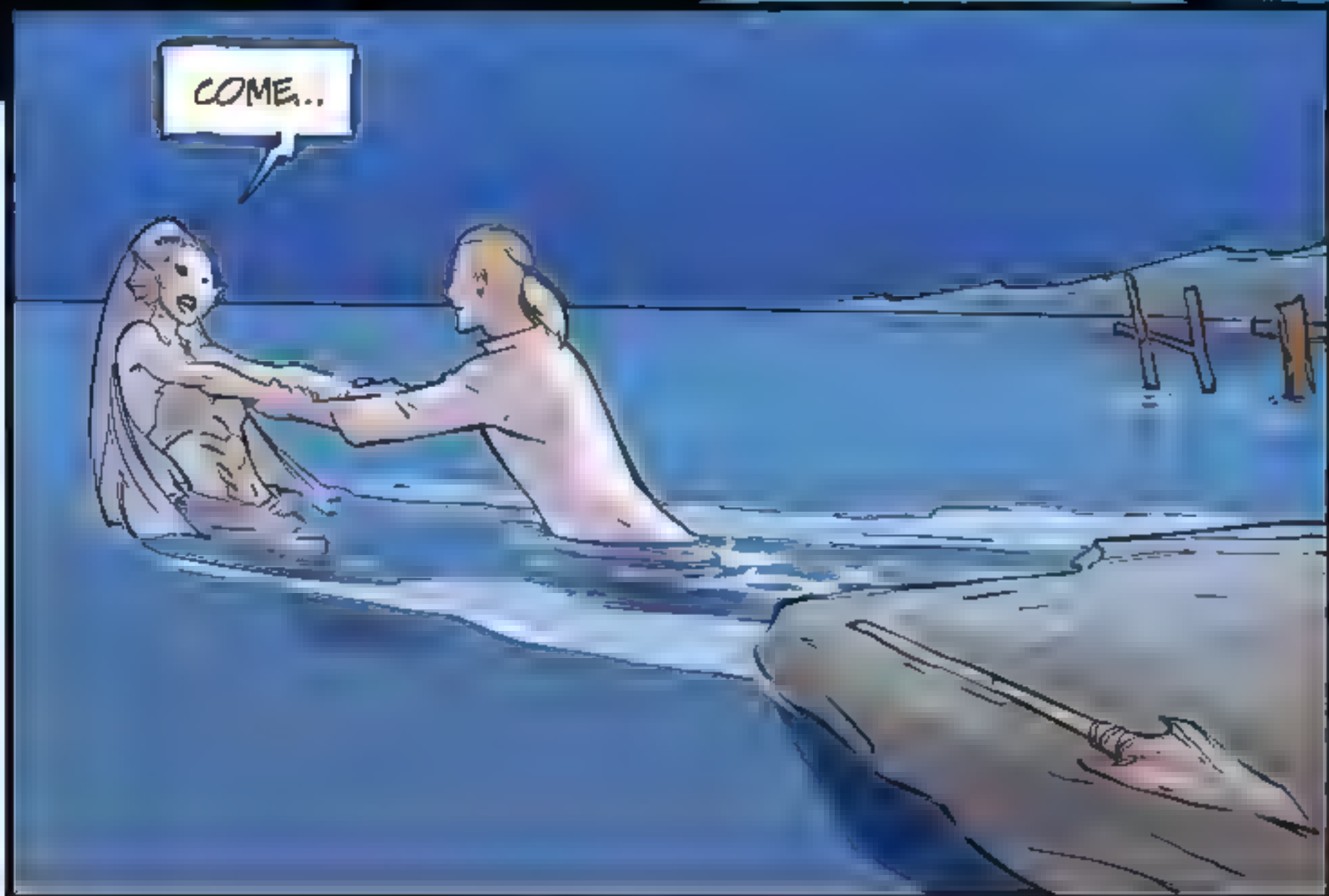
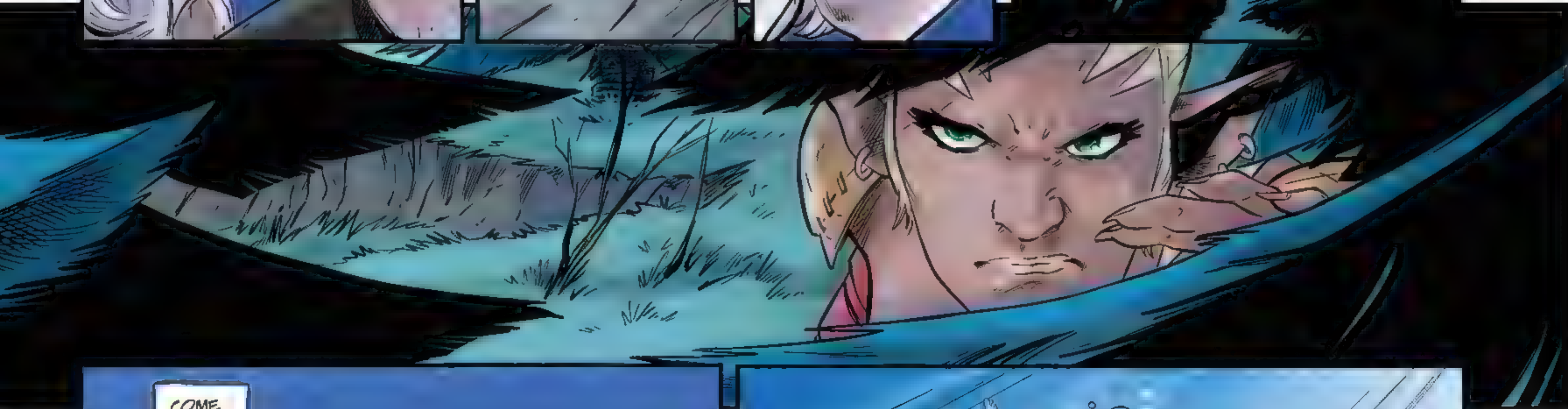
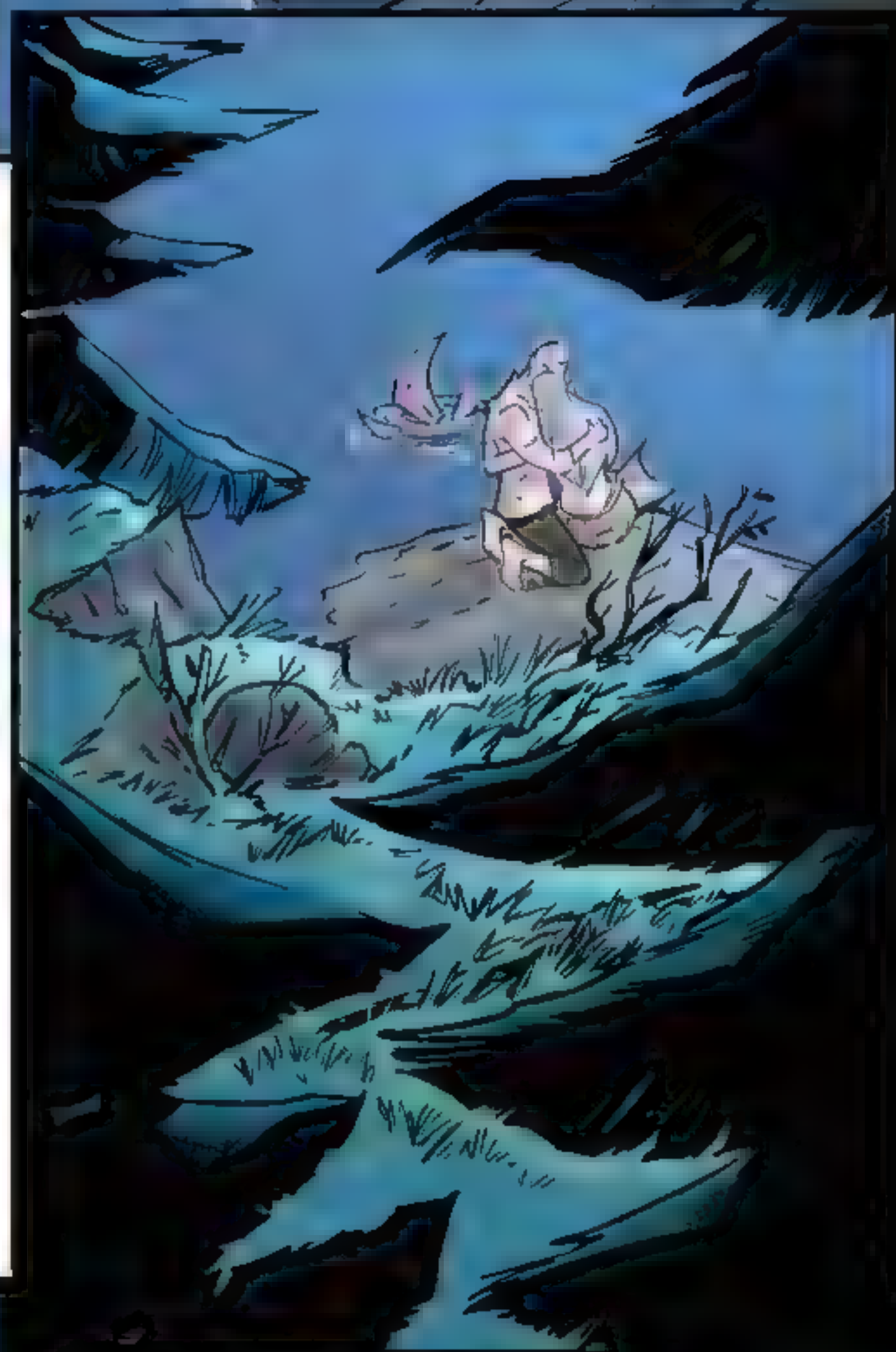
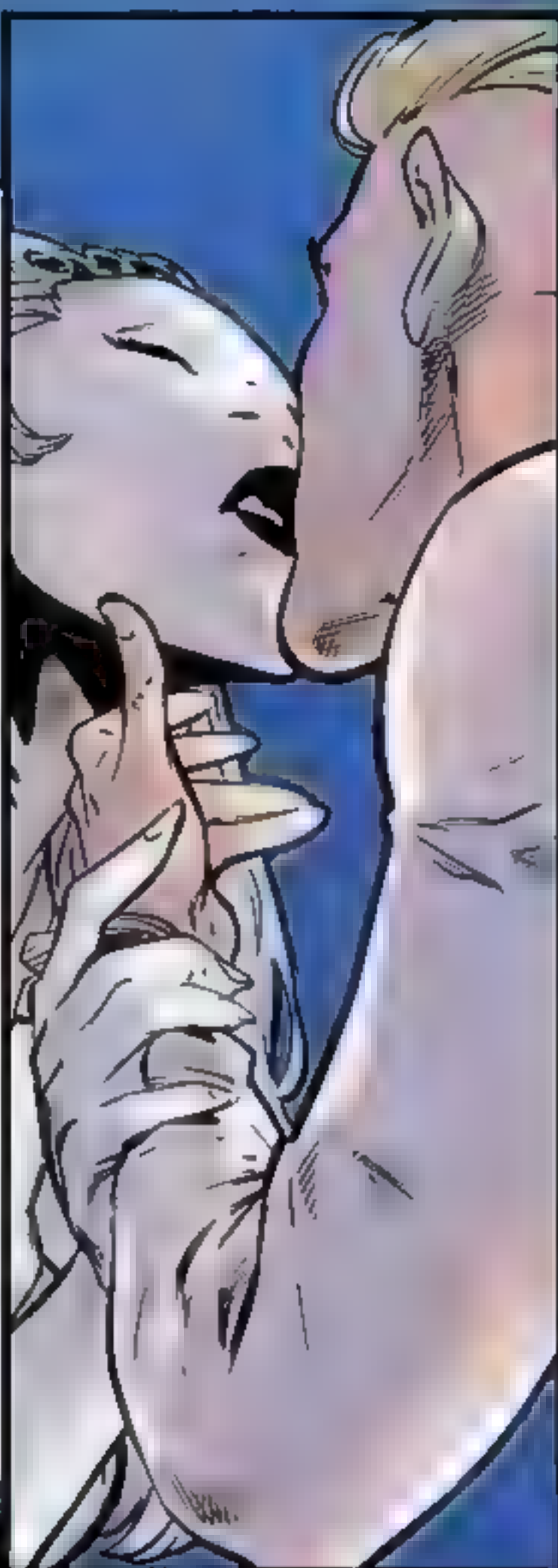
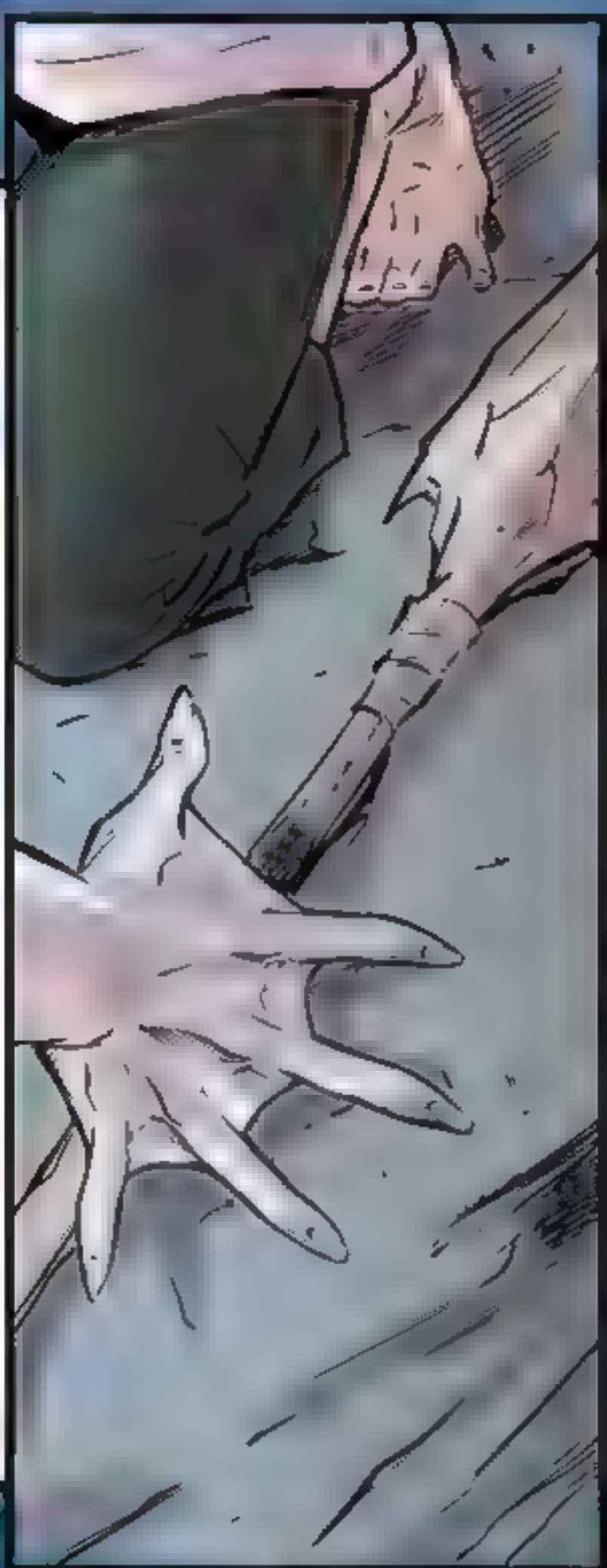


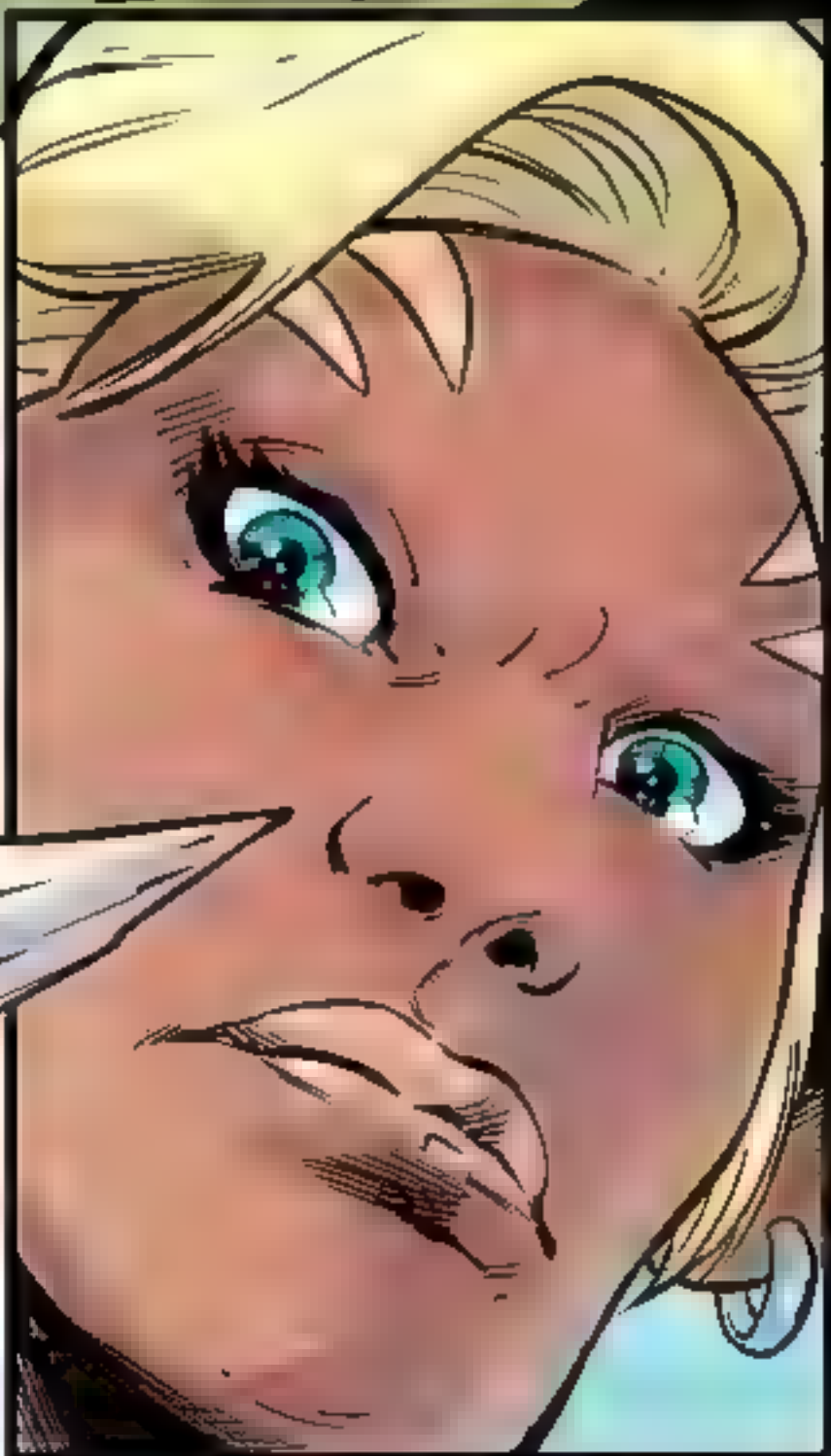
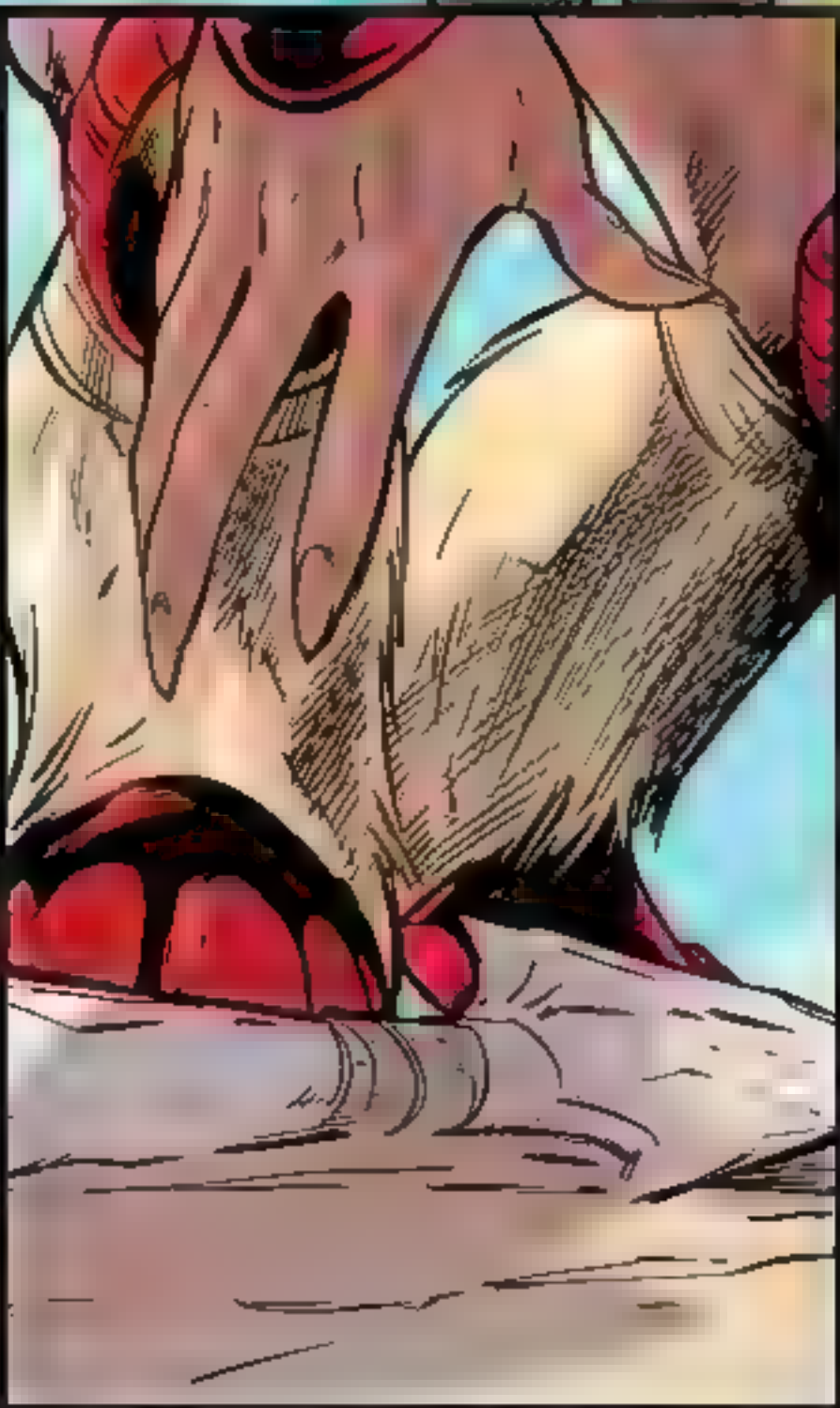
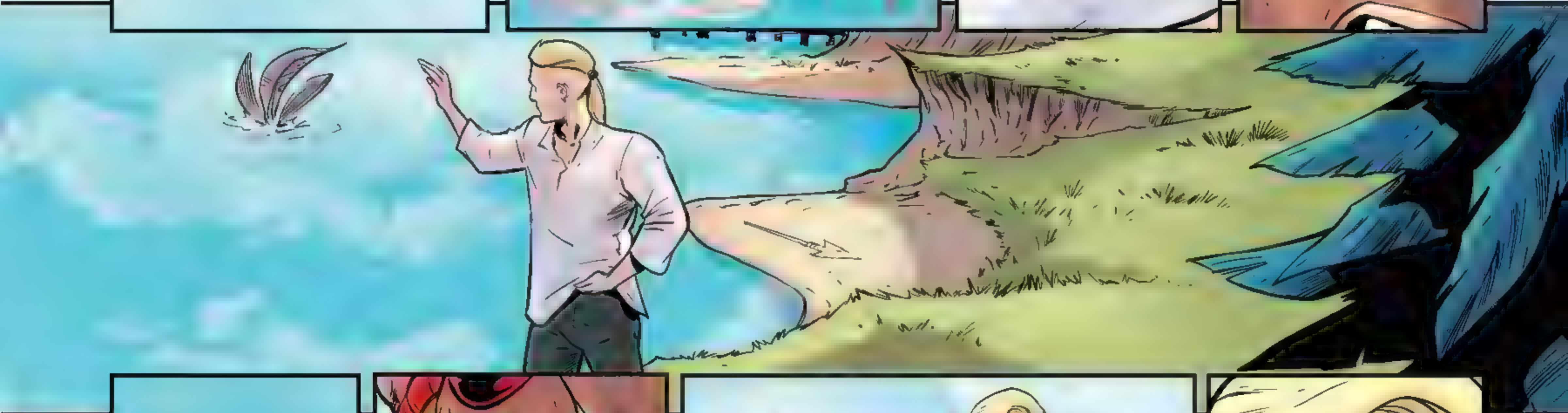
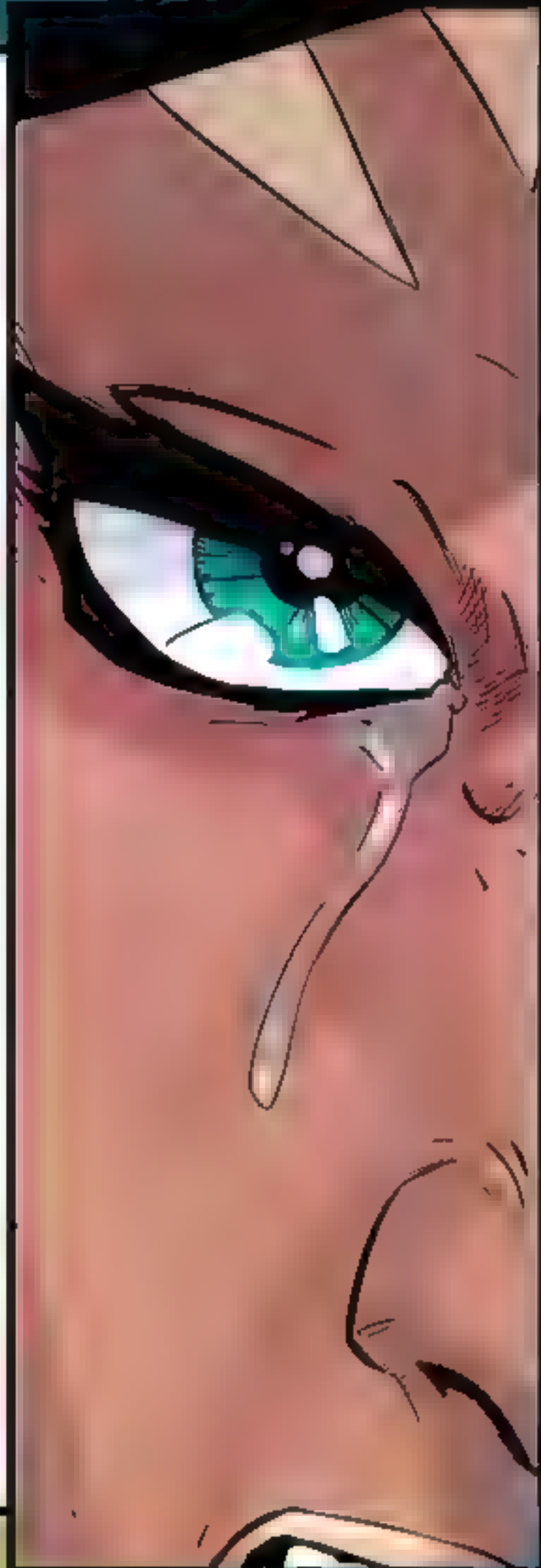
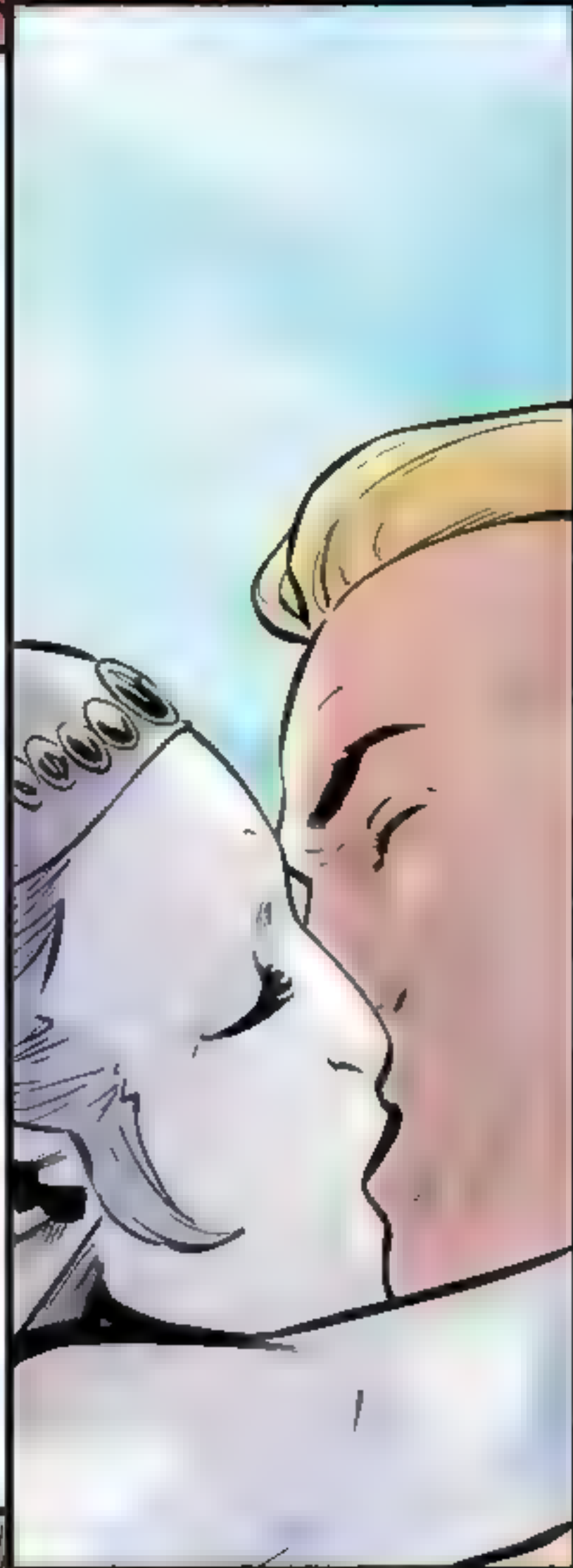
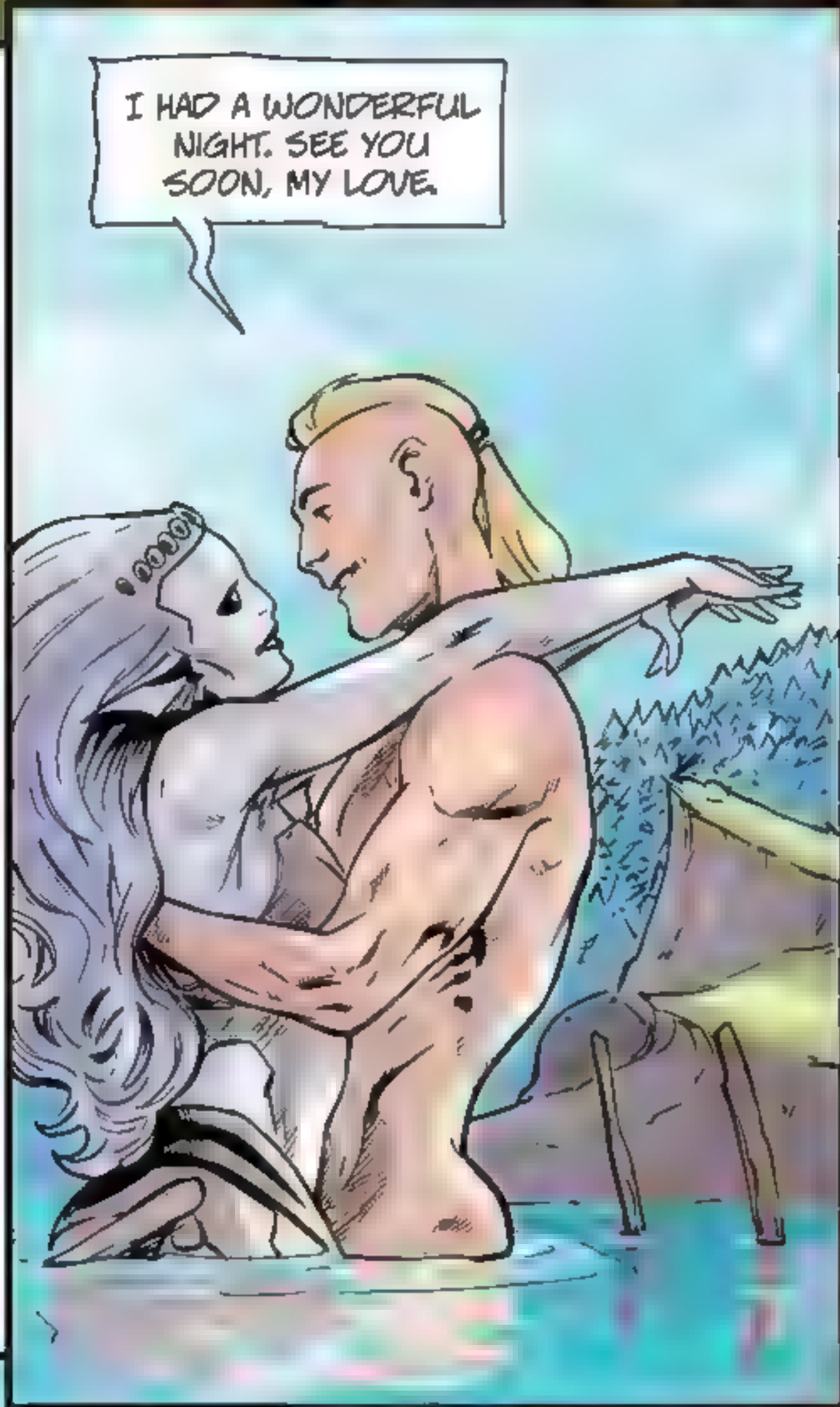
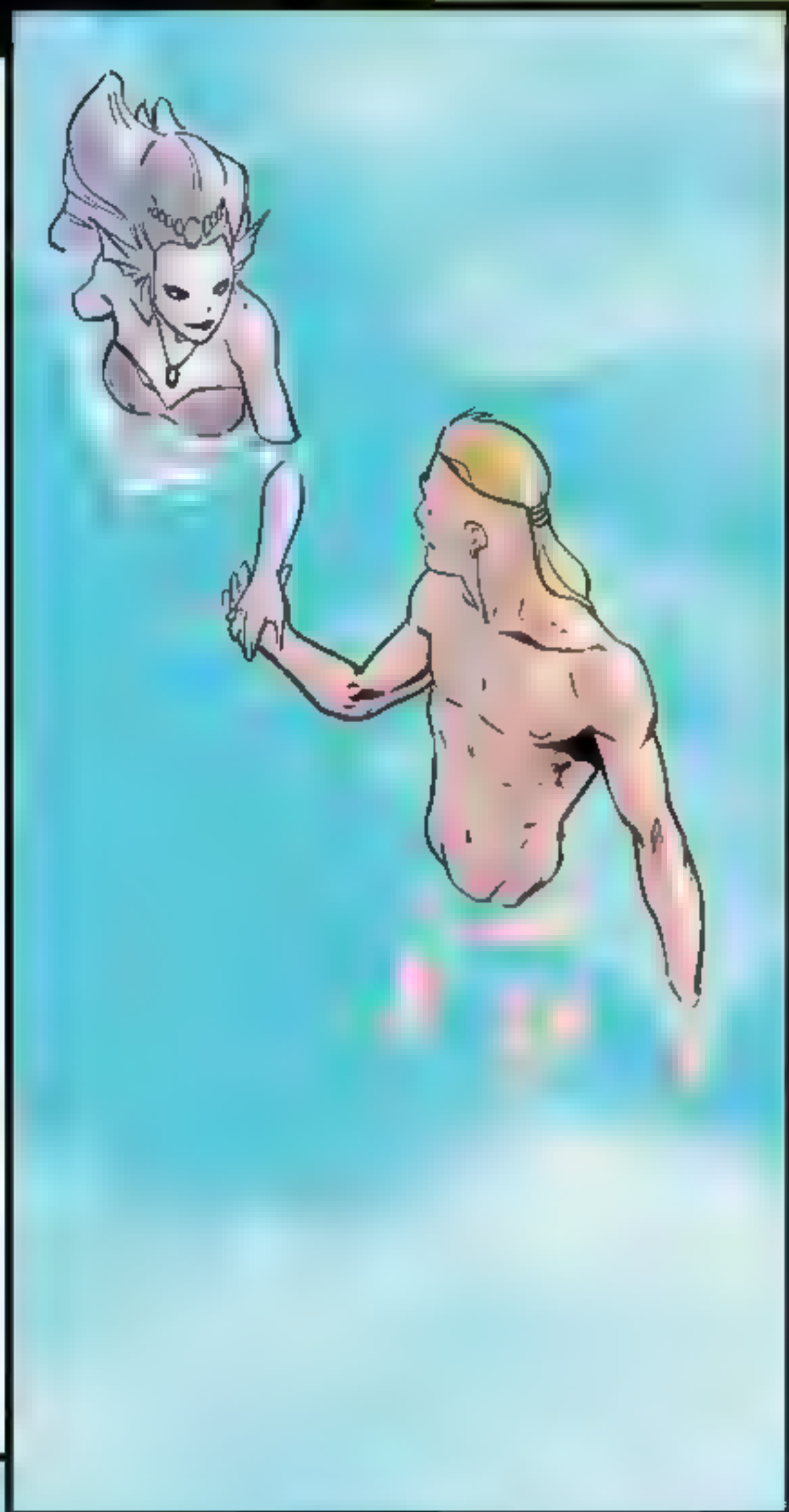
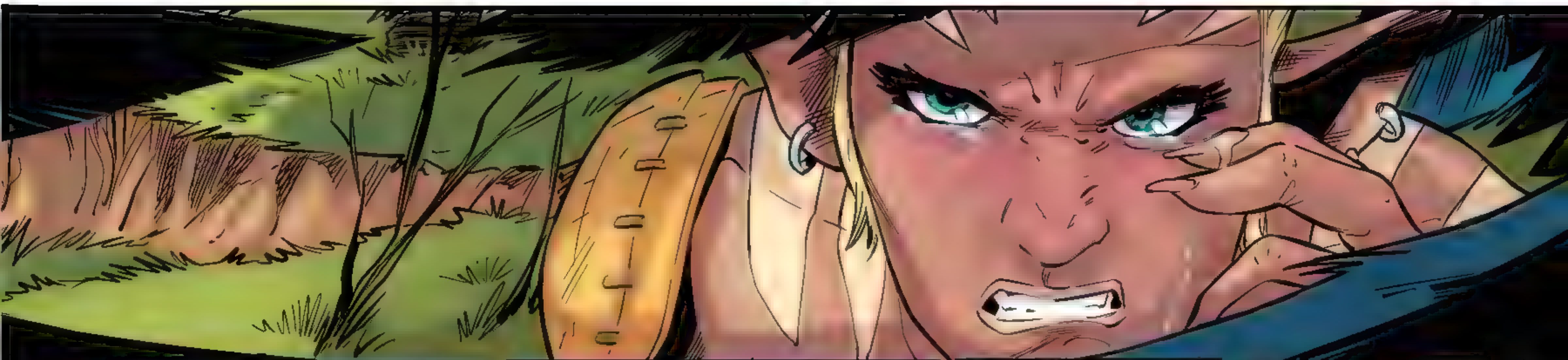
AND THIS TIME, YOU'RE COMING WITH ME. YOU NEED TO START THINKING LIKE A LEADER OR YOU'LL NEVER BE READY TO TAKE OVER. DON'T WANT TO BE UNPREPARED THE DAY YOU TAKE OVER.





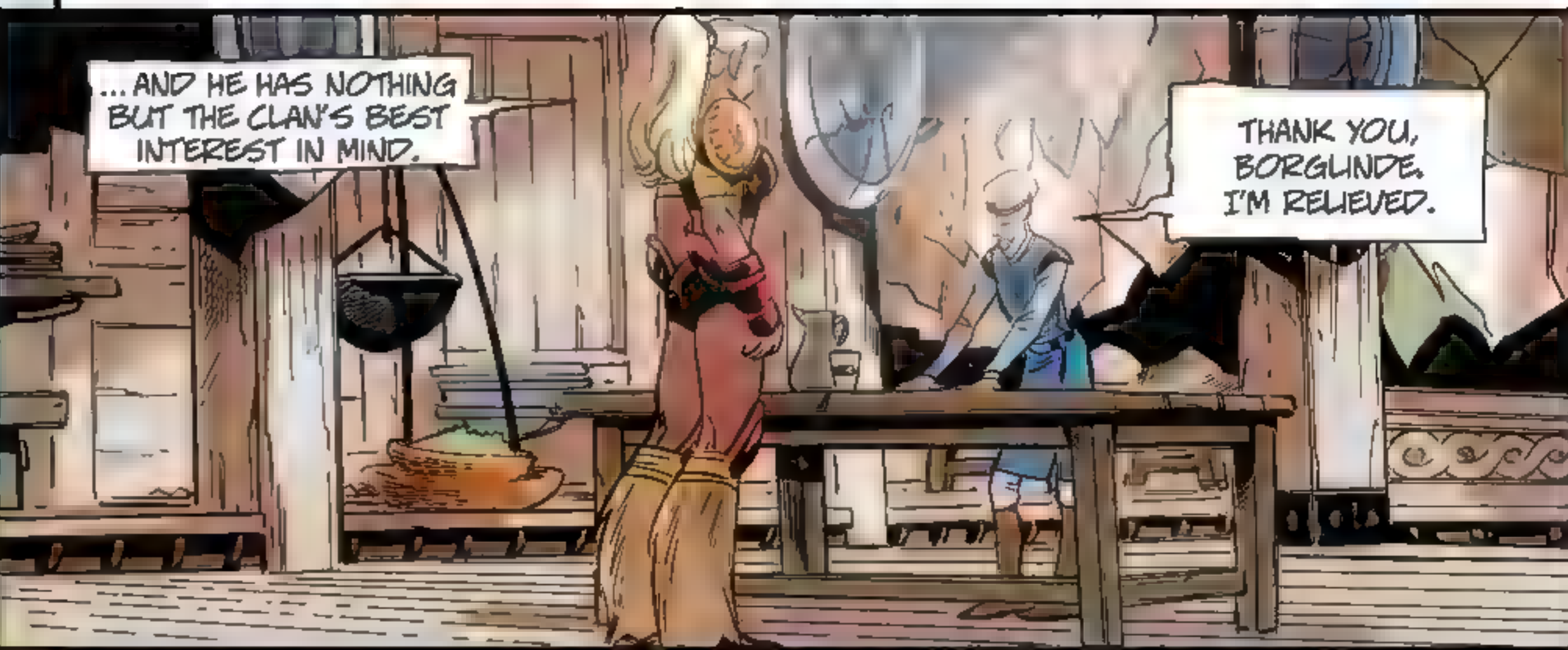
THAT WOULD BE INCREDIBLE. WE'RE GOING TO CHANGE HISTORY. IT'S KIND OF LIKE IF THE SKAGERRAK AND THE KATTEGAT COULD MERGE.





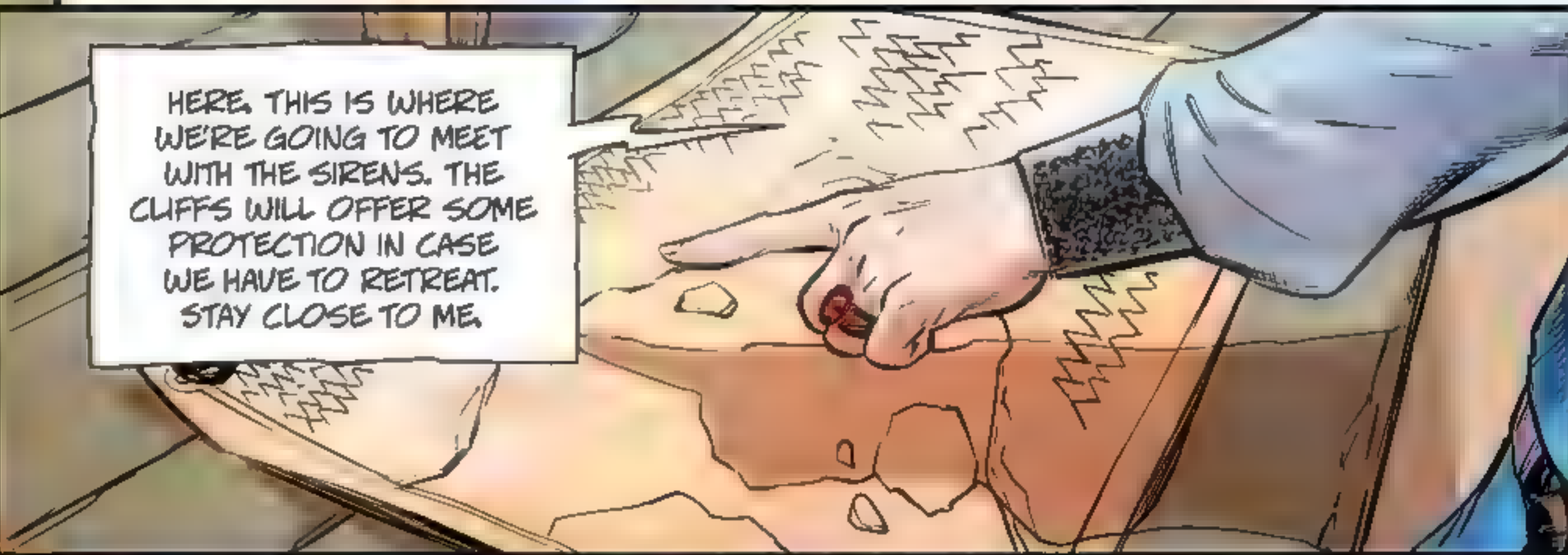


INGVALD IS ENTIRELY DEVOTED TO YOU...

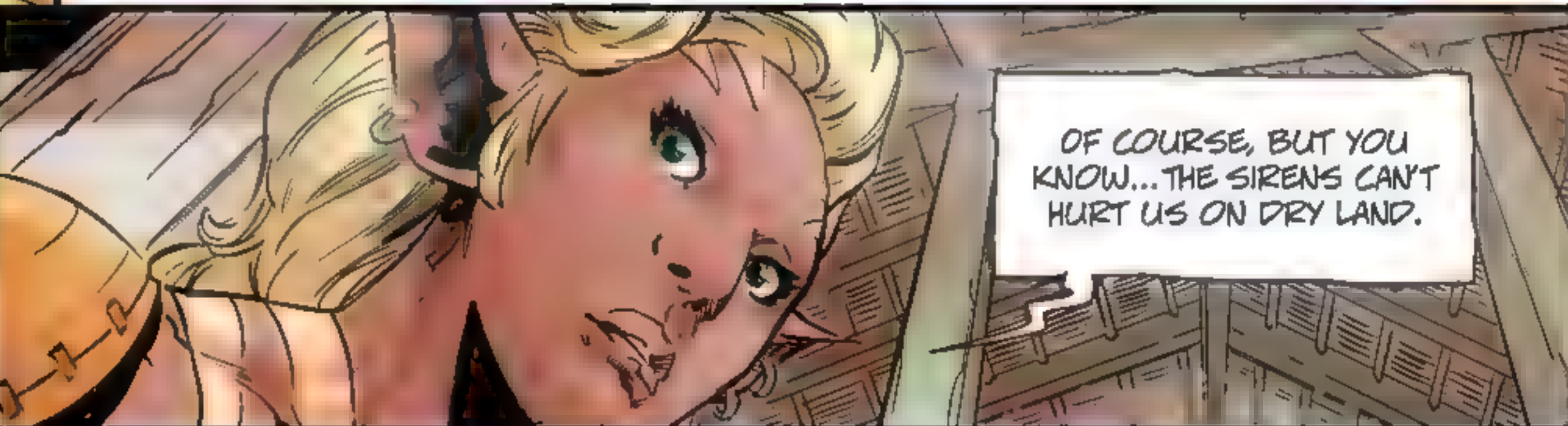


...AND HE HAS NOTHING BUT THE CLAN'S BEST INTEREST IN MIND.

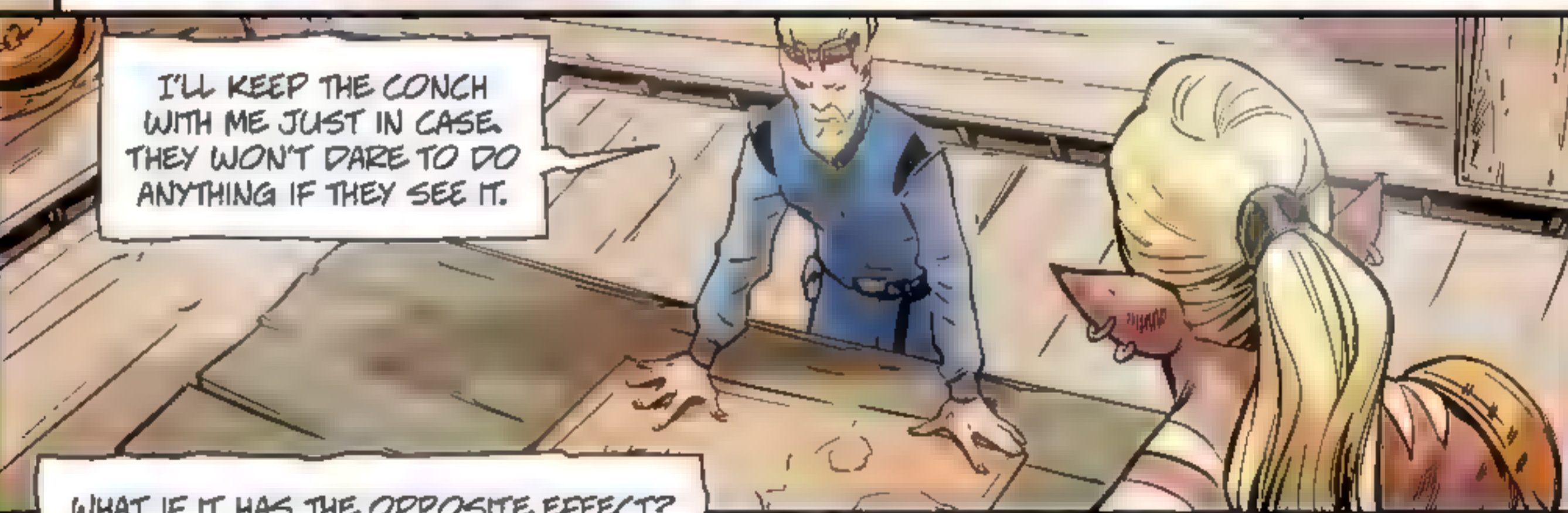
THANK YOU, BORGLINDE. I'M RELIEVED.



HERE, THIS IS WHERE WE'RE GOING TO MEET WITH THE SIRENS. THE CLIFFS WILL OFFER SOME PROTECTION IN CASE WE HAVE TO RETREAT. STAY CLOSE TO ME.



OF COURSE, BUT YOU KNOW...THE SIRENS CAN'T HURT US ON DRY LAND.



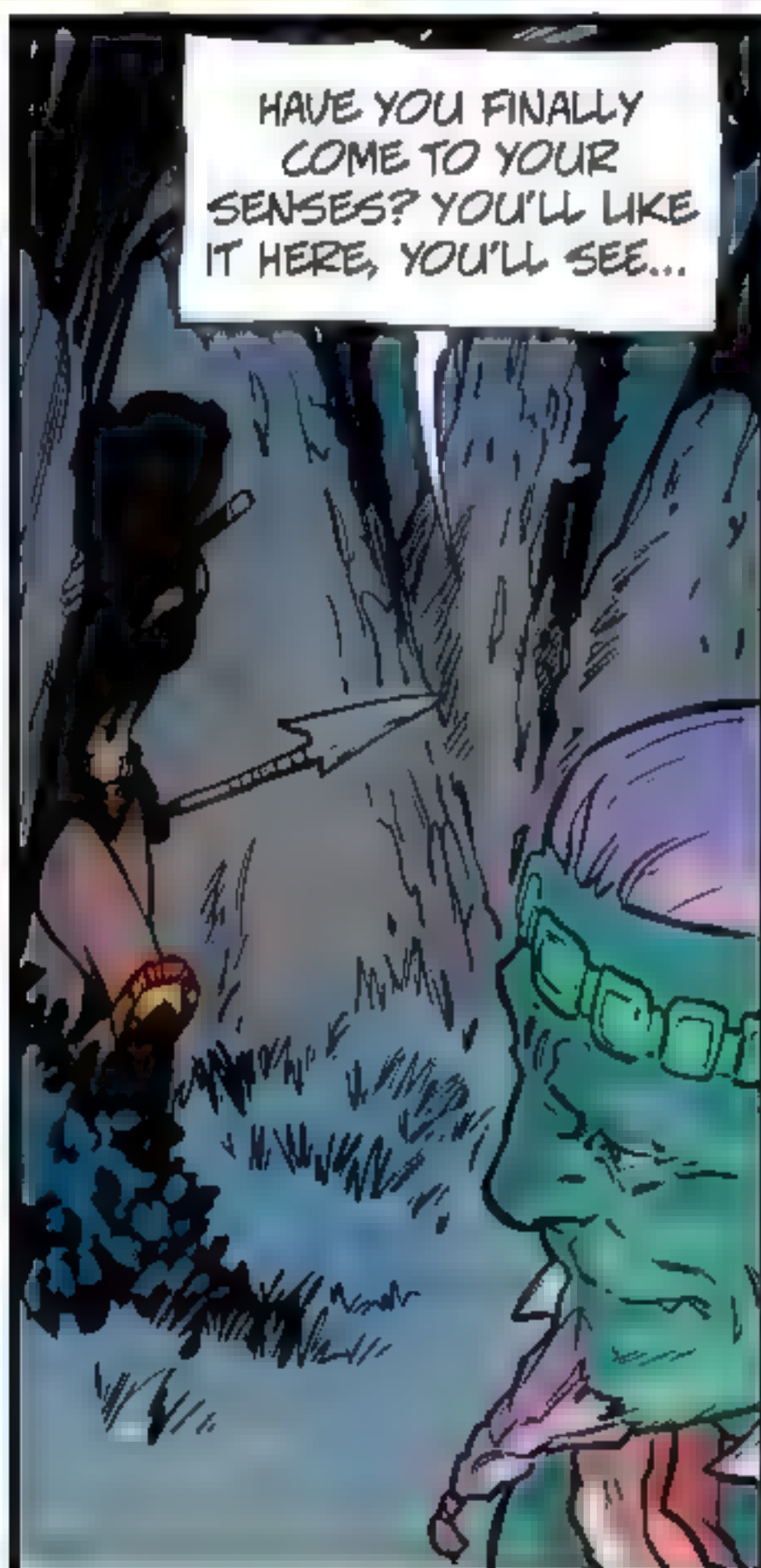
I'LL KEEP THE CONCH WITH ME JUST IN CASE. THEY WON'T DARE TO DO ANYTHING IF THEY SEE IT.



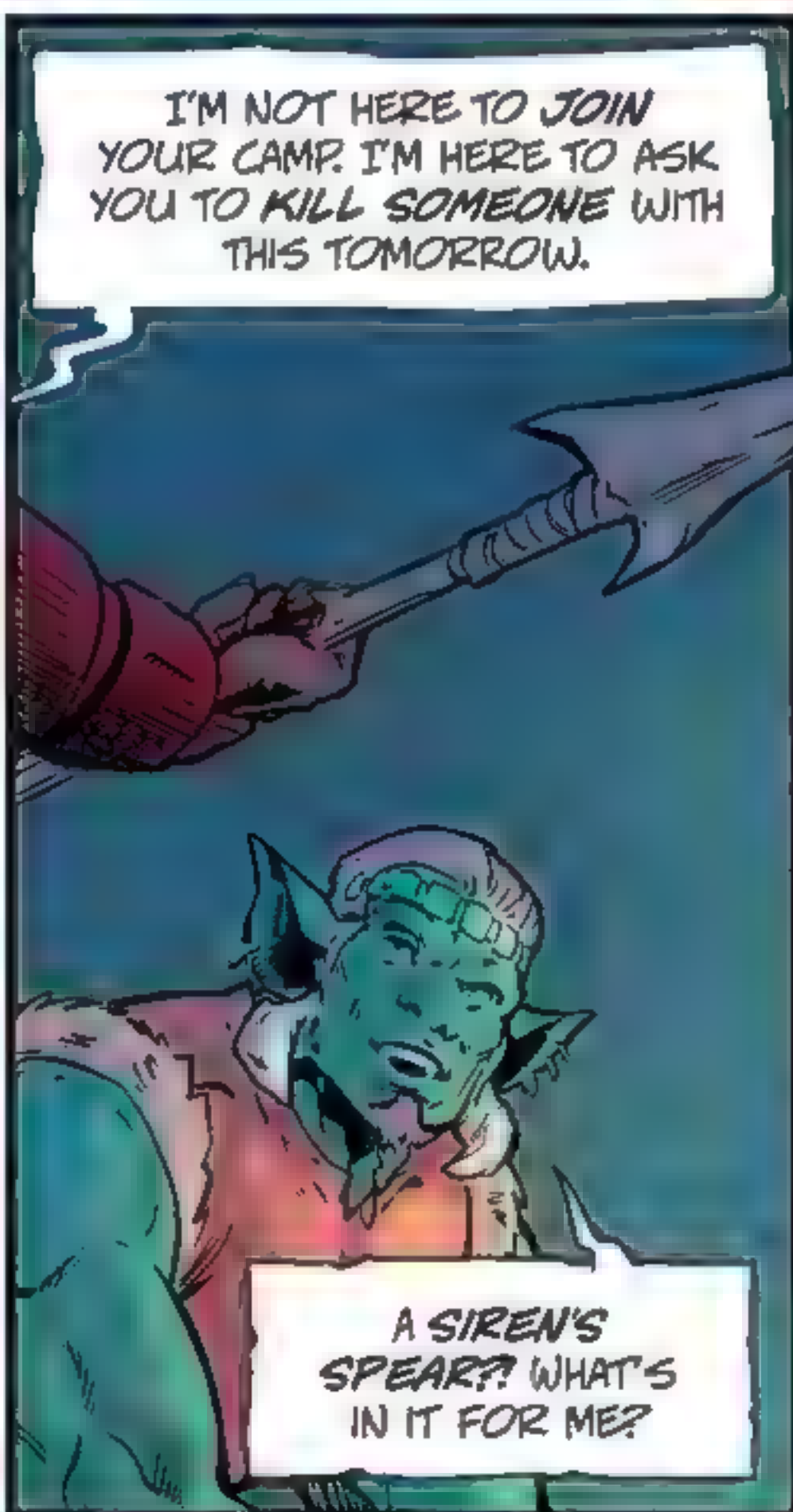
WHAT IF IT HAS THE OPPOSITE EFFECT? THE SIRENS COULD SENSE A TRAP AND IMMEDIATELY SWIM AWAY.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU HAVE IT ALL PLANNED OUT.

NO MATTER, ARCHERS WILL BE HIDING BEHIND THE ROCKS TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY.

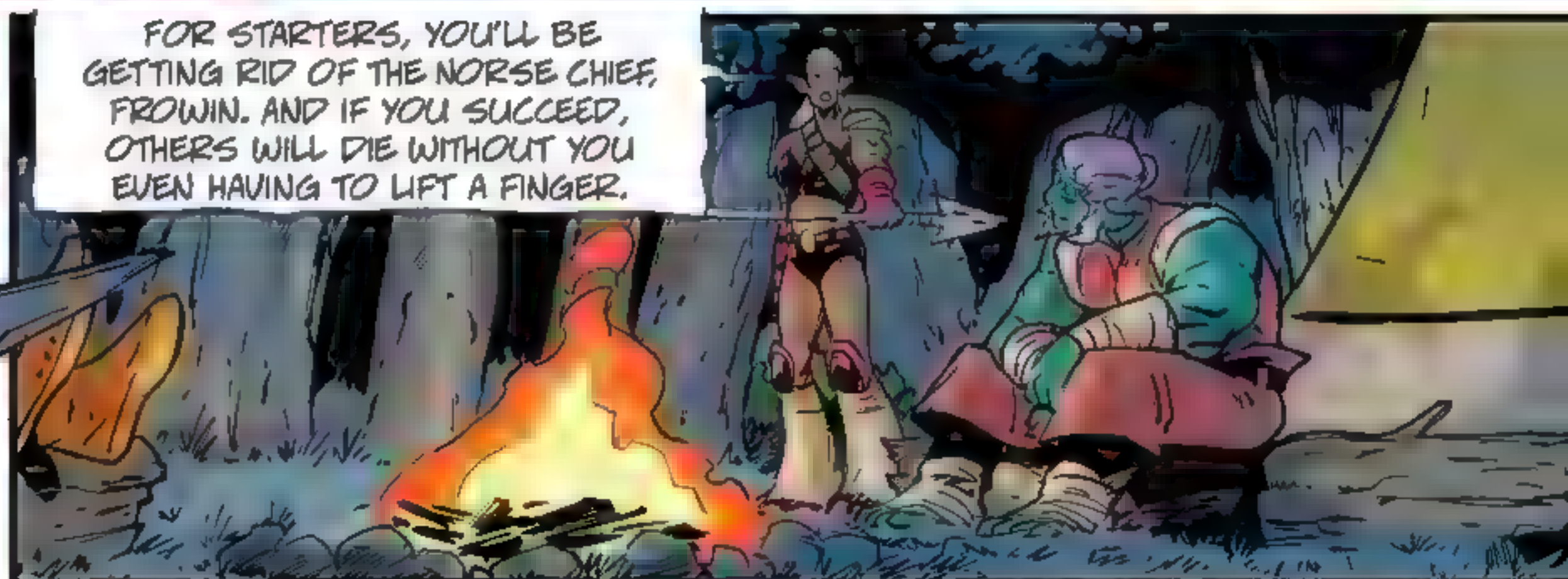


HAVE YOU FINALLY
COME TO YOUR
SENSES? YOU'LL LIKE
IT HERE, YOU'LL SEE...

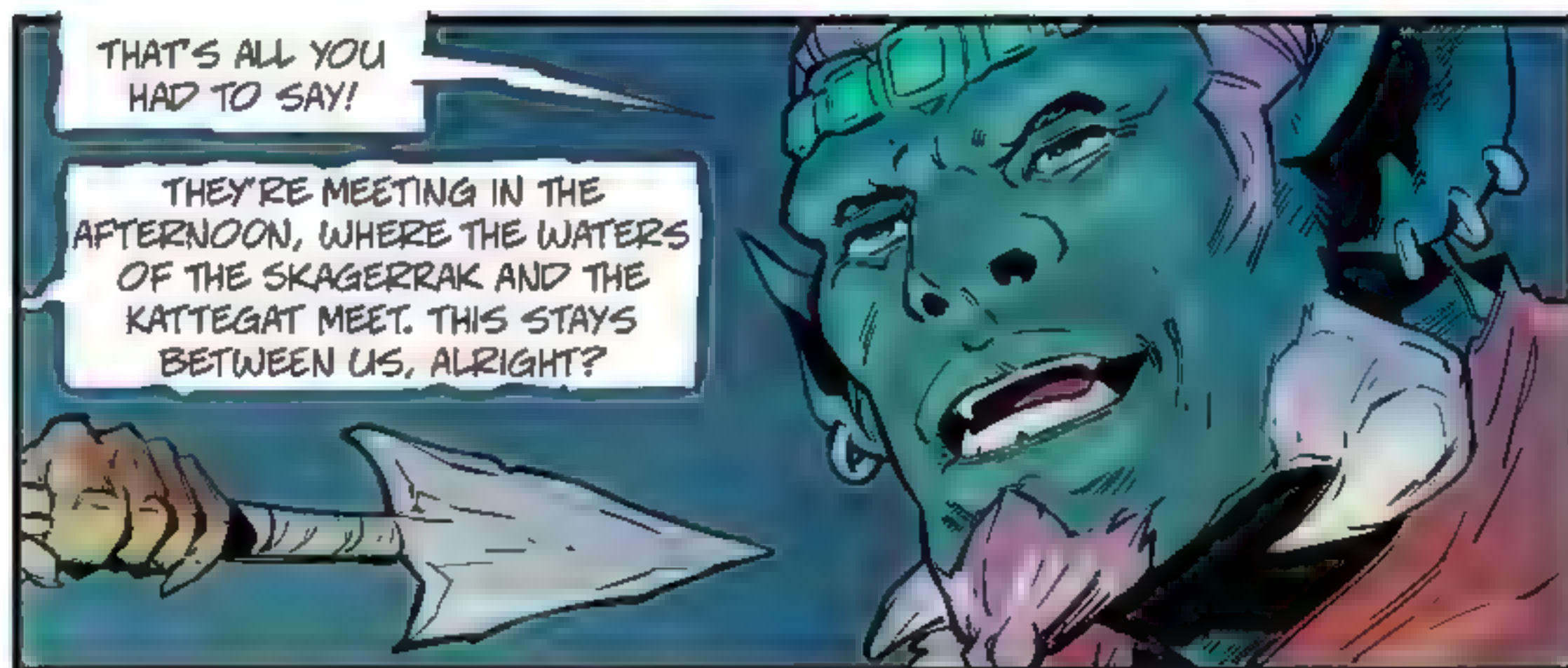


I'M NOT HERE TO JOIN
YOUR CAMP. I'M HERE TO ASK
YOU TO KILL SOMEONE WITH
THIS TOMORROW.

A SIREN'S
SPEAR? WHAT'S
IN IT FOR ME?

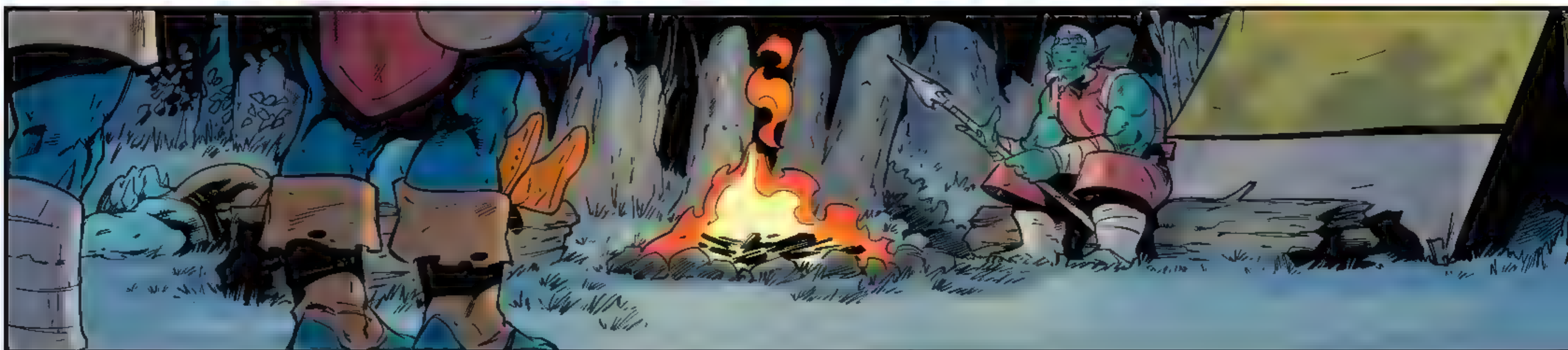


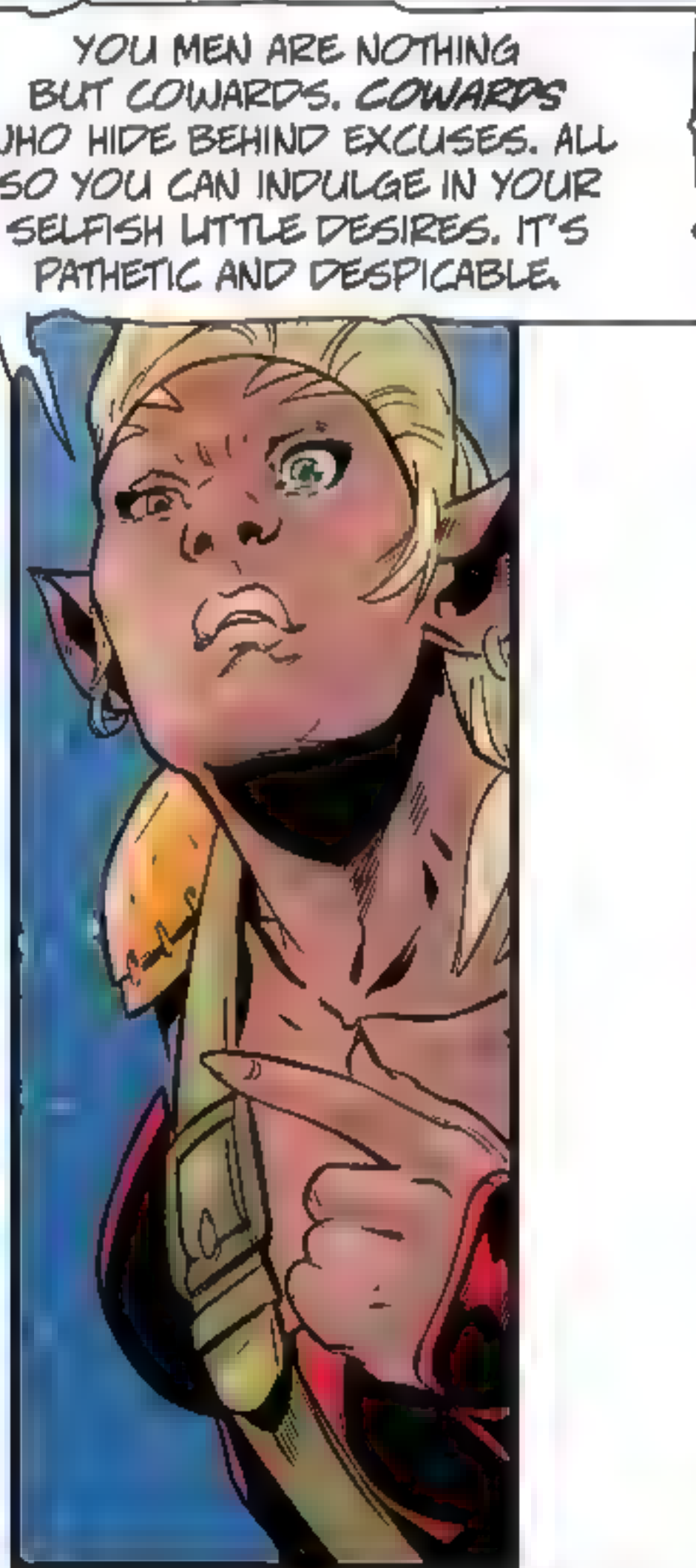
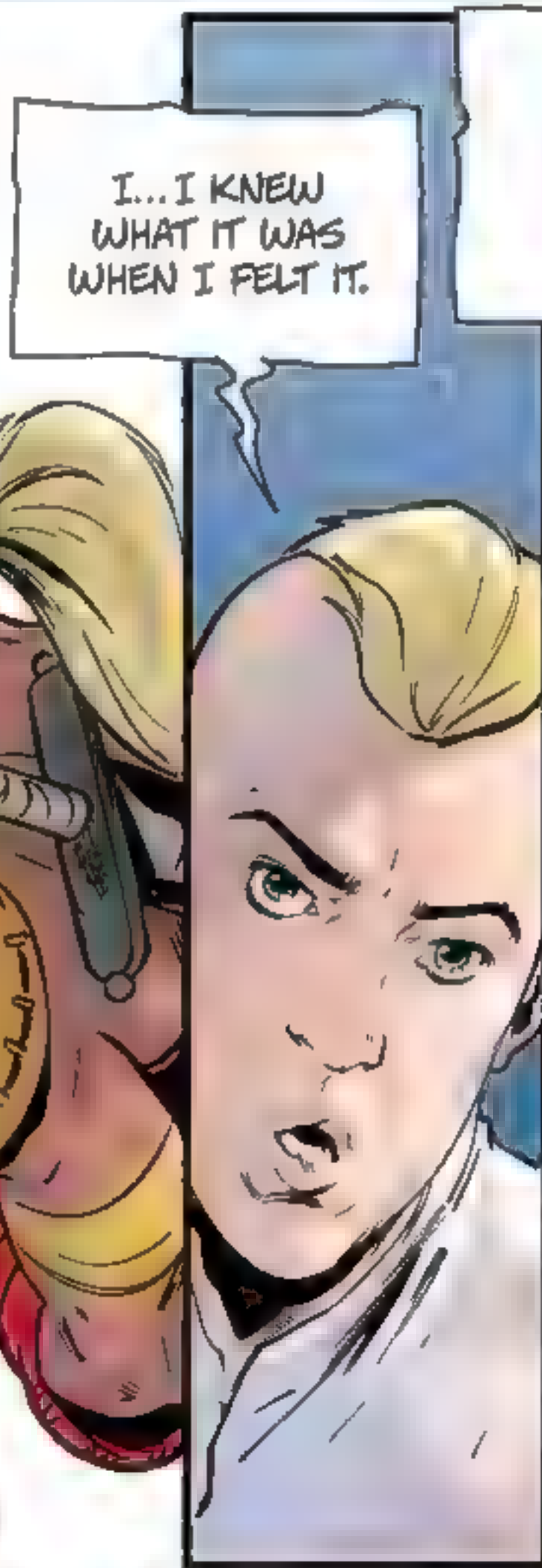
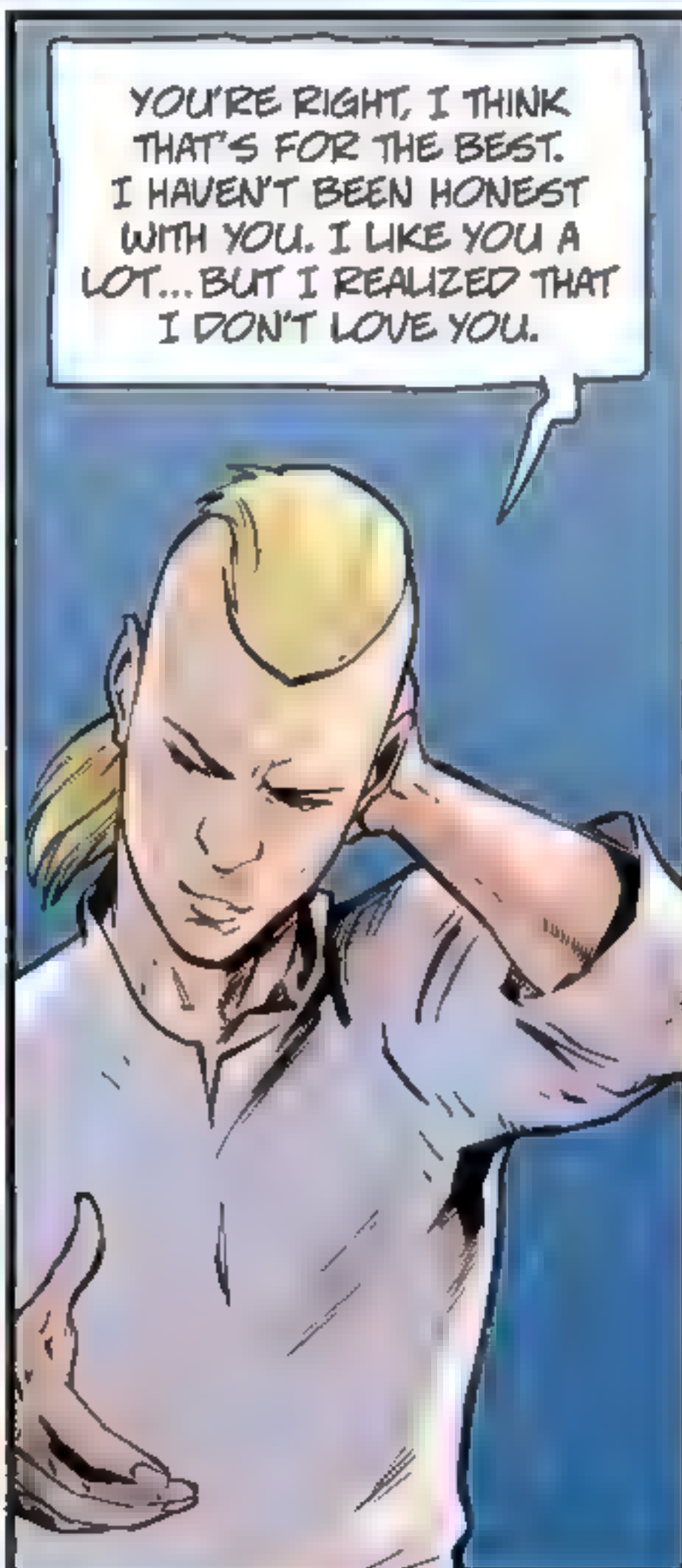
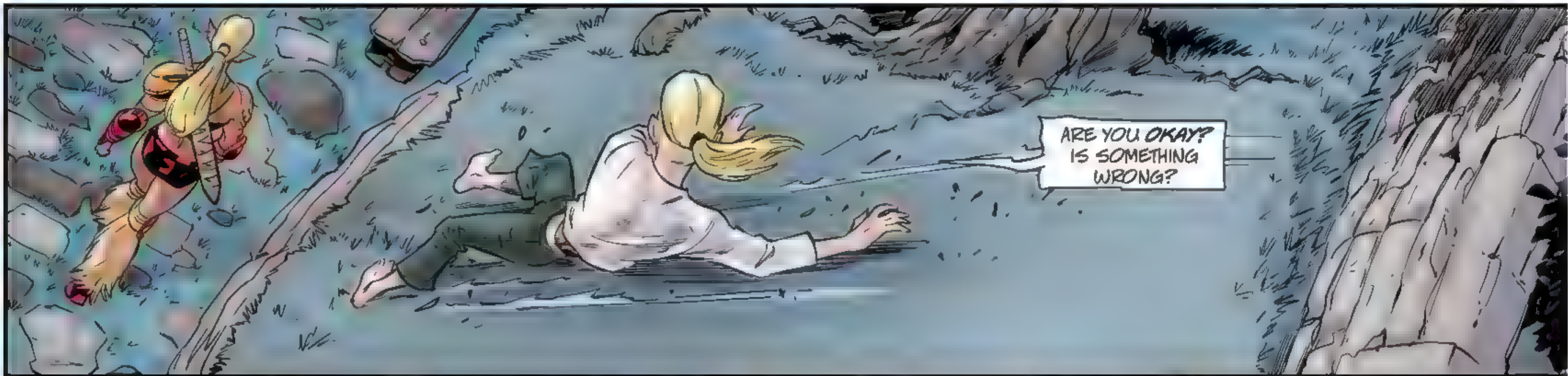
FOR STARTERS, YOU'LL BE
GETTING RID OF THE NORSE CHIEF,
FROWIN. AND IF YOU SUCCEED,
OTHERS WILL DIE WITHOUT YOU
EVEN HAVING TO LIFT A FINGER.

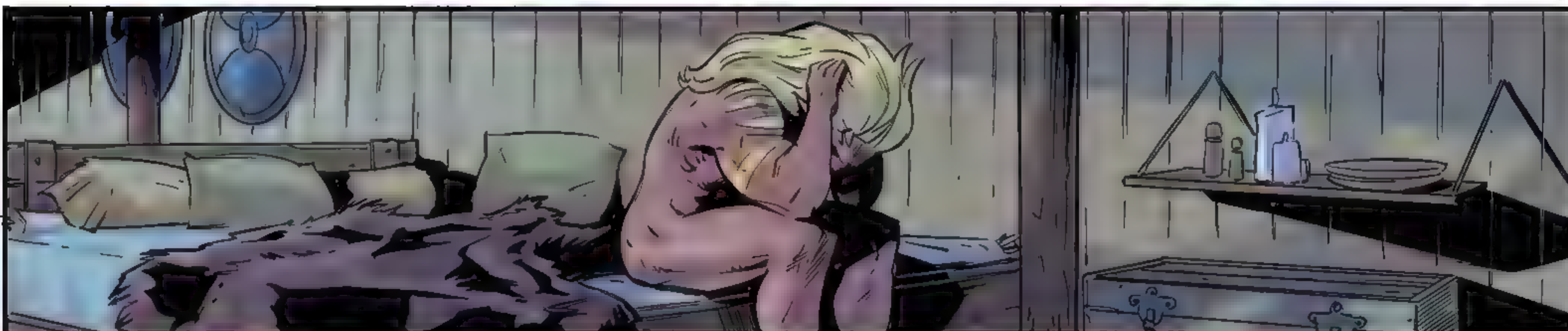
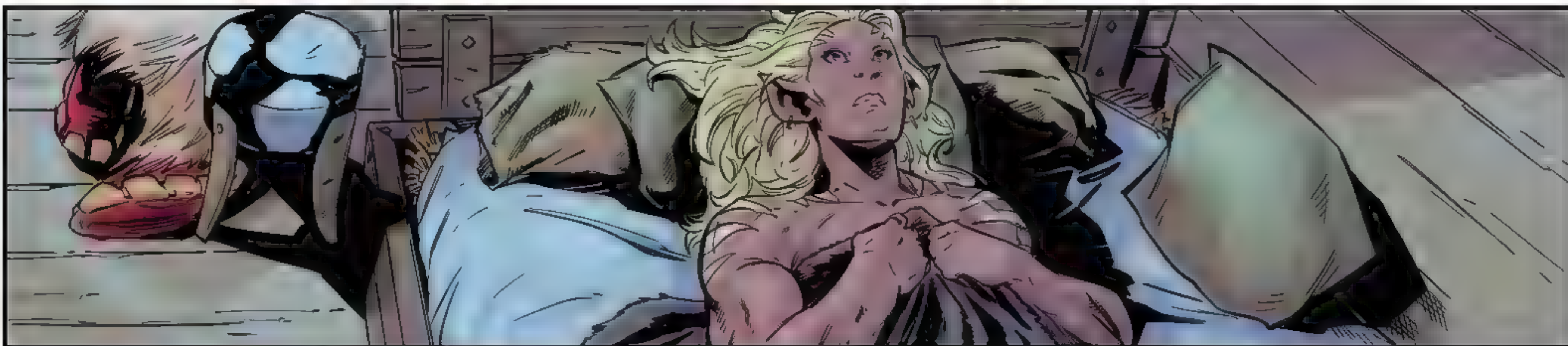


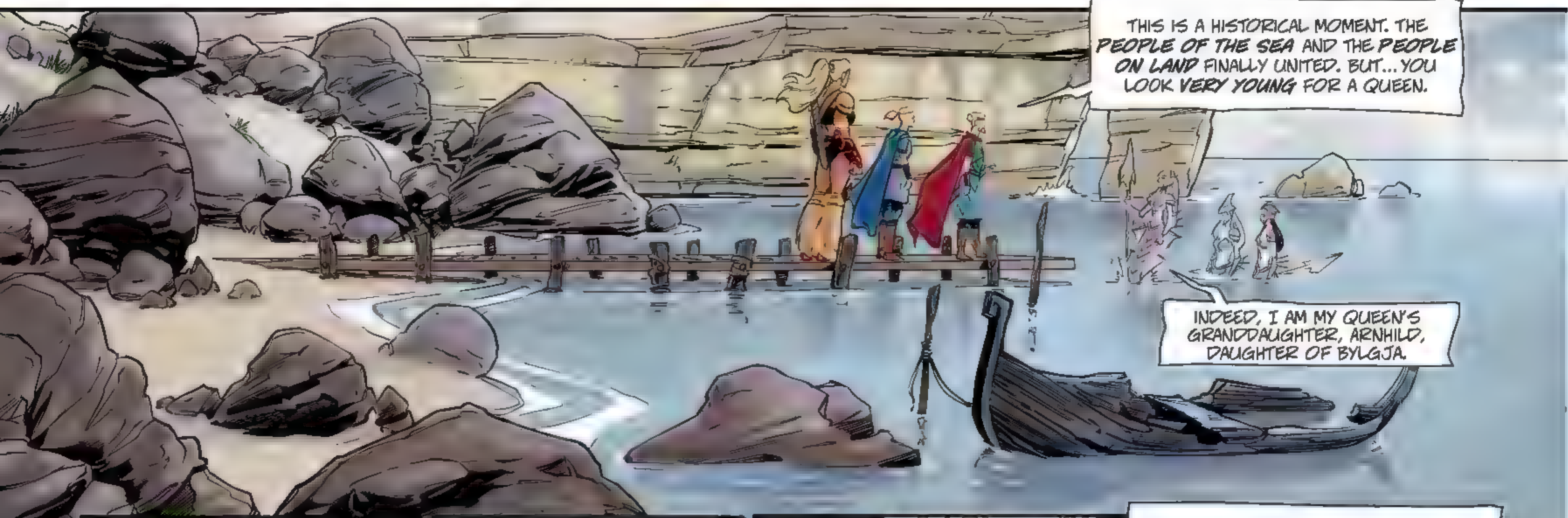
THAT'S ALL YOU
HAD TO SAY!

THEY'RE MEETING IN THE
AFTERNOON, WHERE THE WATERS
OF THE SKAGERRAK AND THE
KATTEGAT MEET. THIS STAYS
BETWEEN US, ALRIGHT?



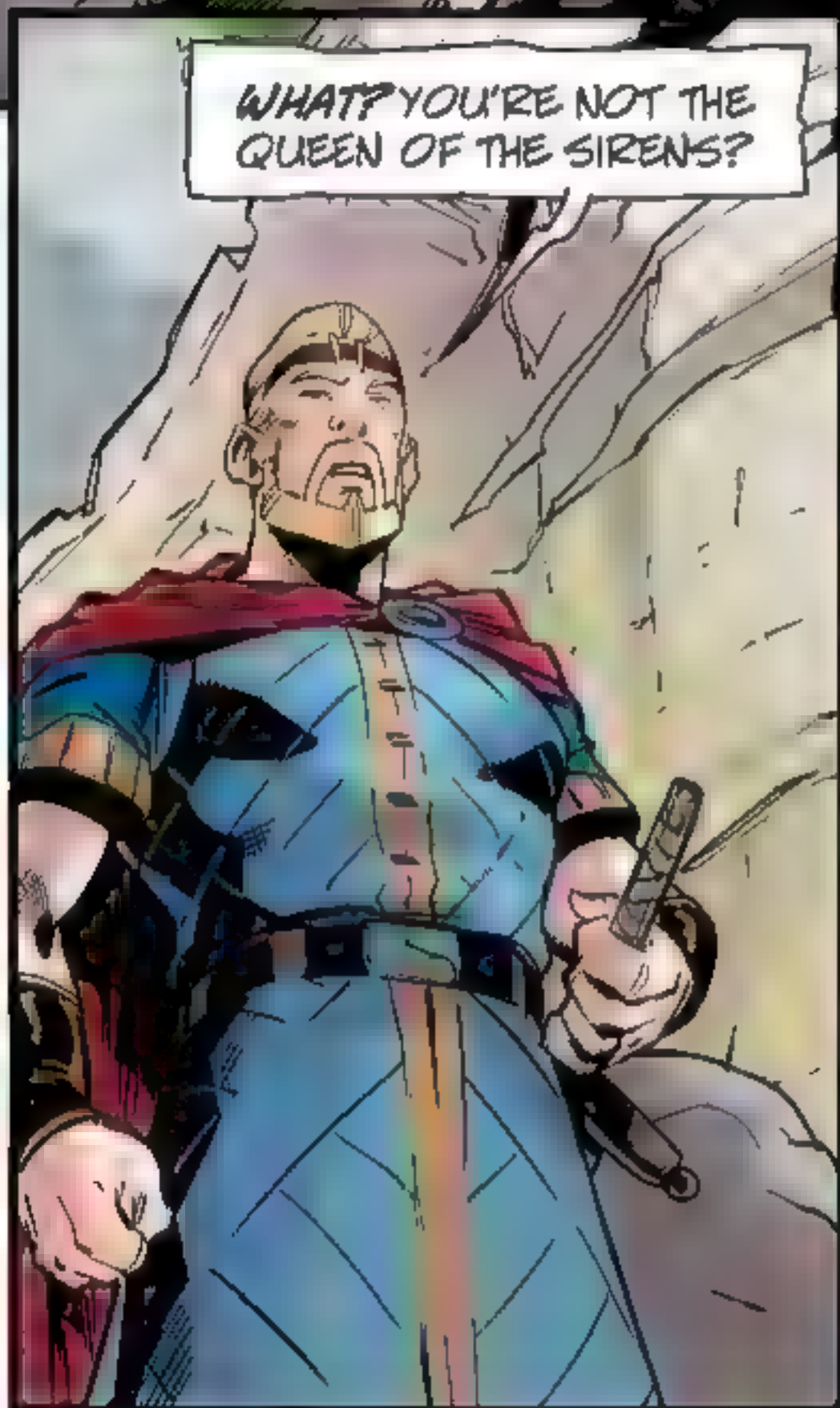




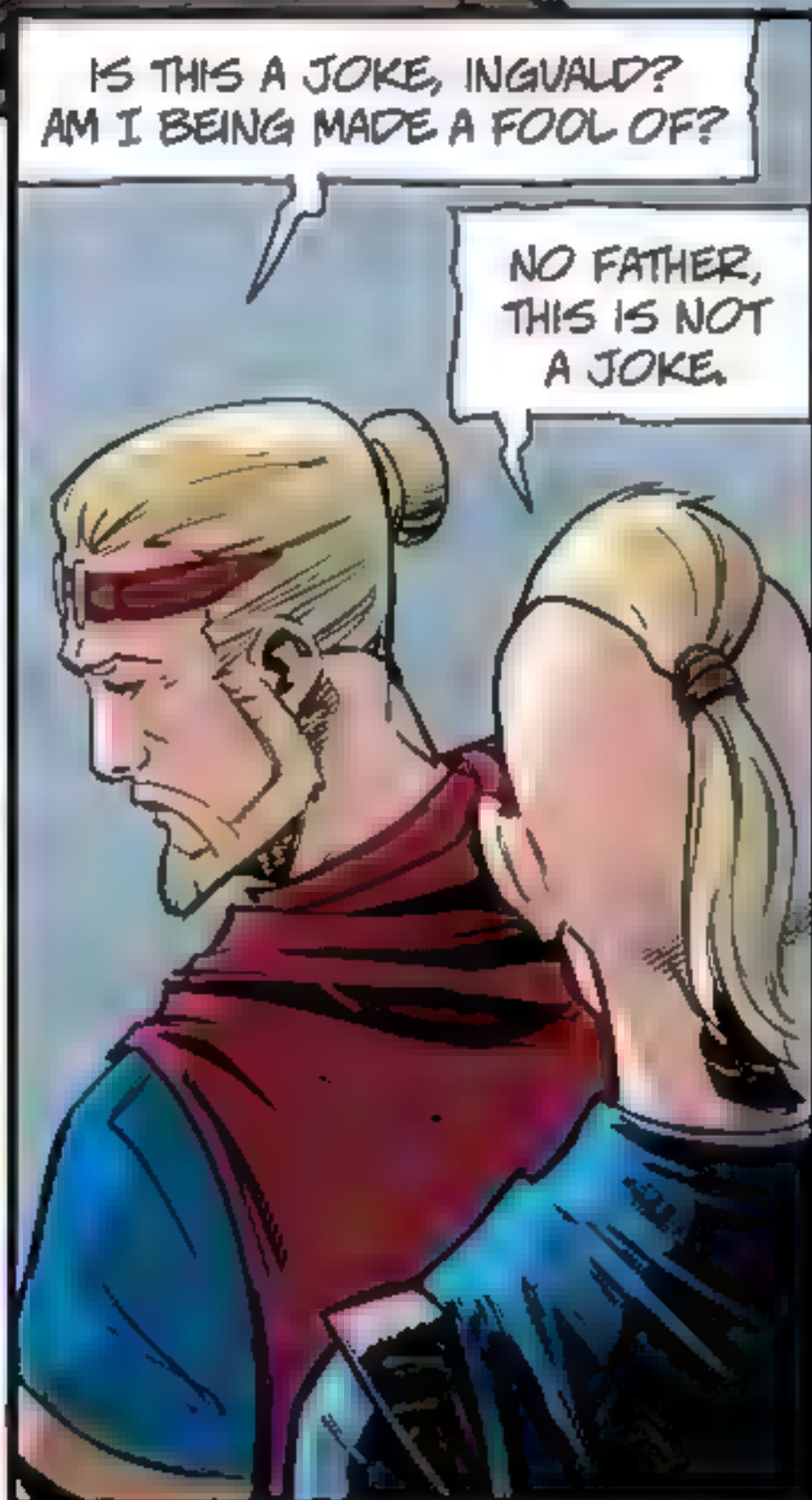


THIS IS A HISTORICAL MOMENT. THE PEOPLE OF THE SEA AND THE PEOPLE ON LAND FINALLY UNITED. BUT... YOU LOOK VERY YOUNG FOR A QUEEN.

INDEED, I AM MY QUEEN'S GRANDDAUGHTER, ARNHILD, DAUGHTER OF BYLGJA.

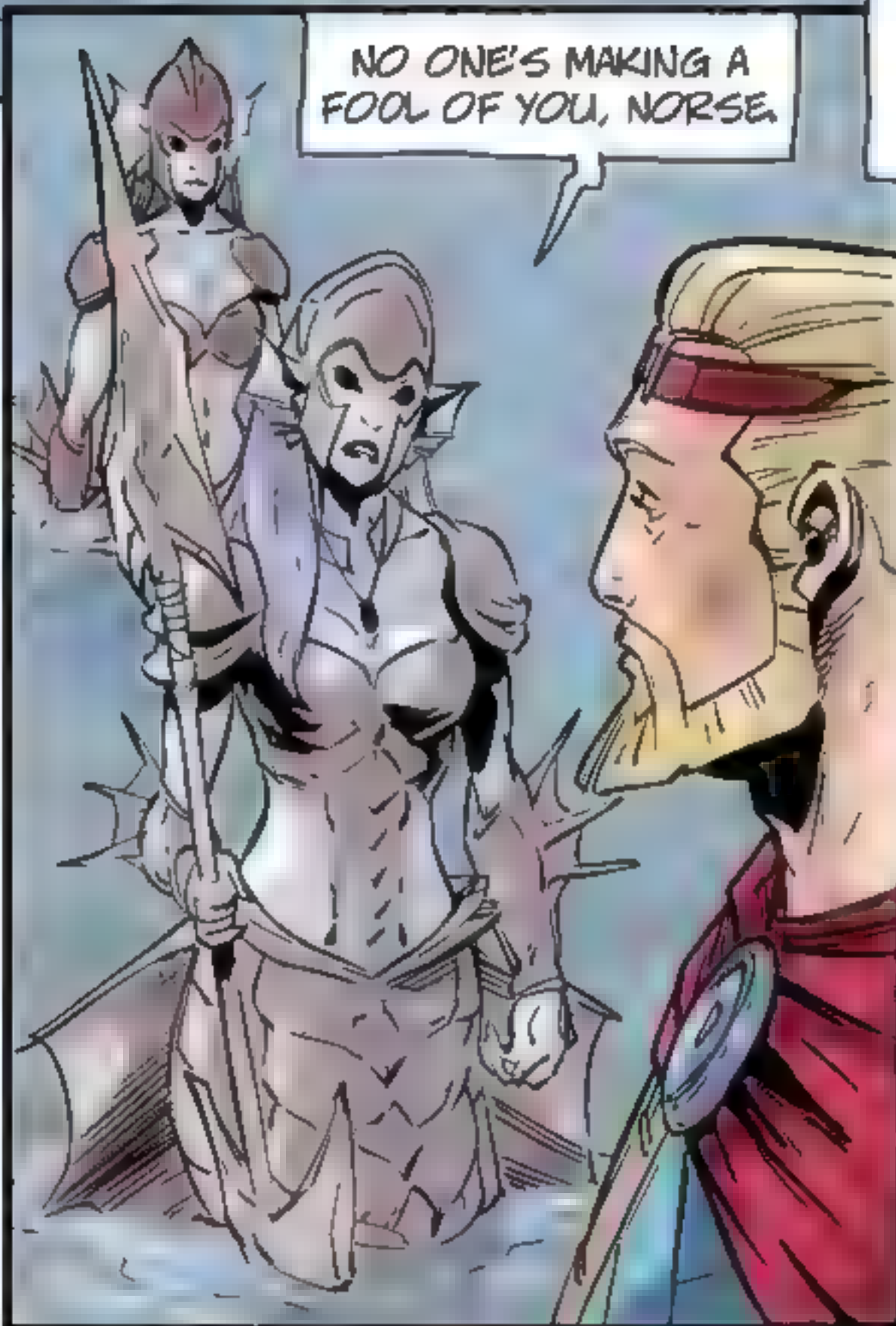


WHAT? YOU'RE NOT THE QUEEN OF THE SIRENS?

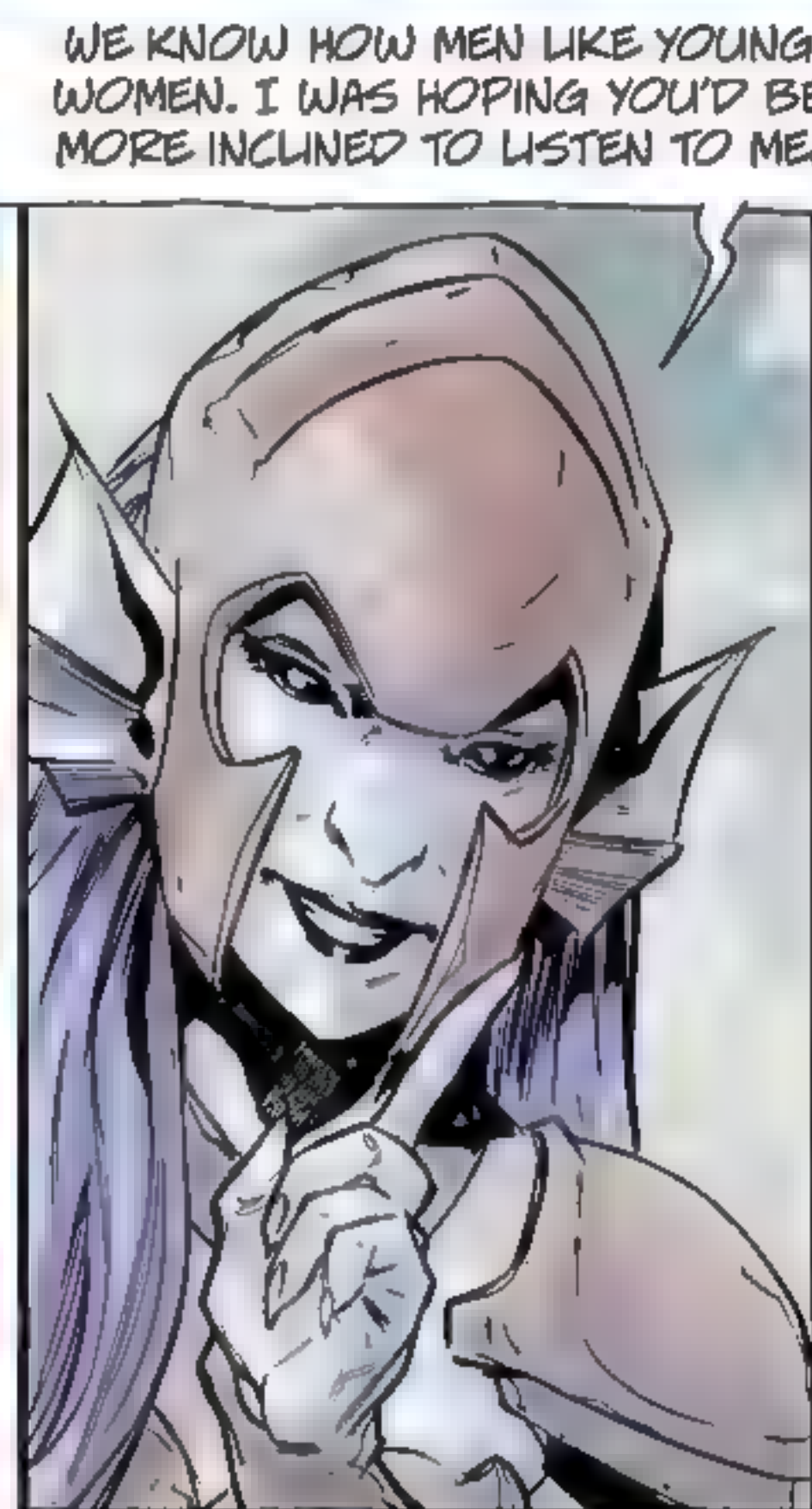


IS THIS A JOKE, INGVALD? AM I BEING MADE A FOOL OF?

NO FATHER, THIS IS NOT A JOKE.



NO ONE'S MAKING A FOOL OF YOU, NORSE.



WE KNOW HOW MEN LIKE YOUNG WOMEN. I WAS HOPING YOU'D BE MORE INCLINED TO LISTEN TO ME.



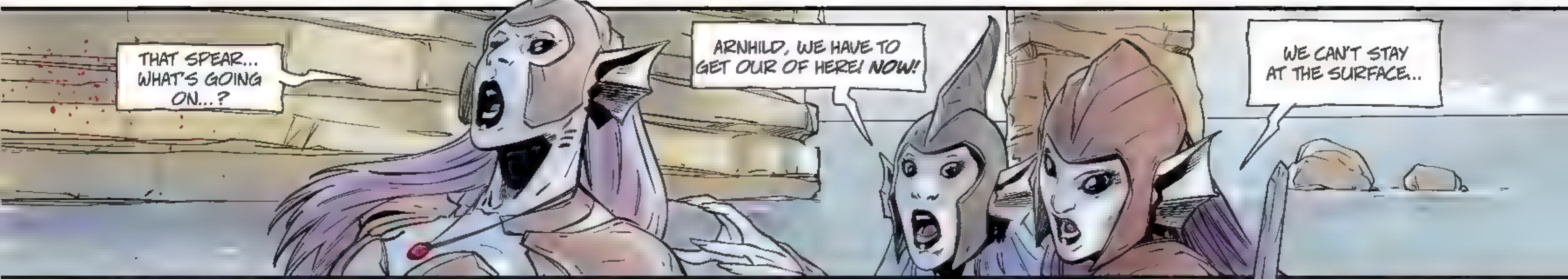
HAHAHAHA! BY THE GODS, HOW DO YOU KNOW US SO WELL?



WHAT IS IT?

I HAVE A BAD FEELING...

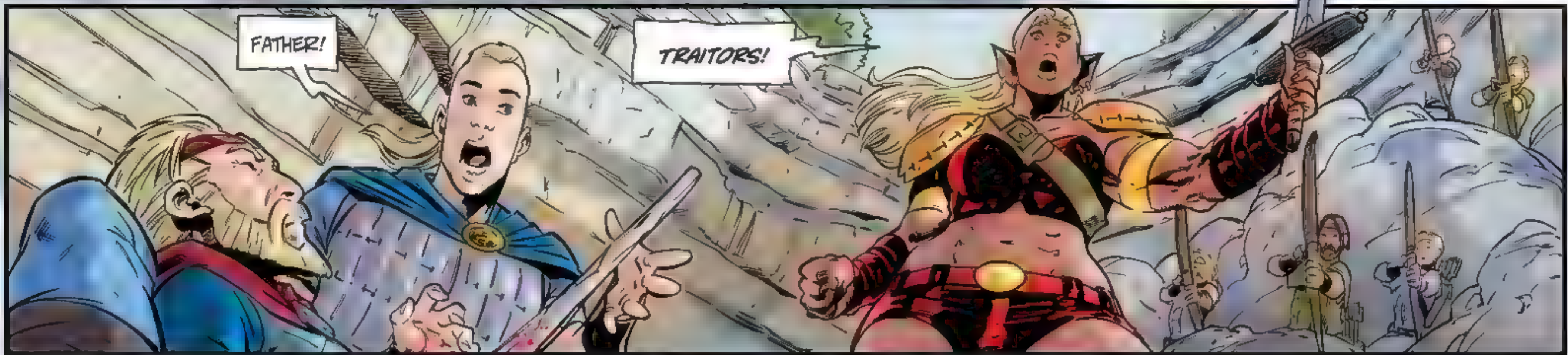




THAT SPEAR...
WHAT'S GOING
ON...?

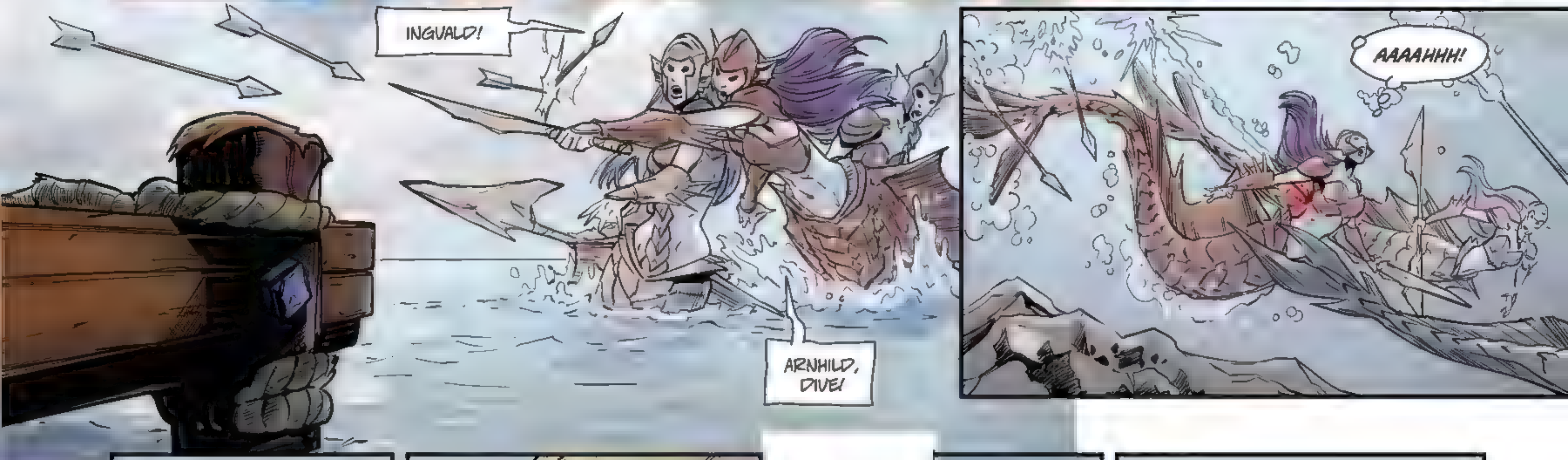
ARNHILD, WE HAVE TO
GET OUR OF HERE! NOW!

WE CAN'T STAY
AT THE SURFACE...



FATHER!

TRAITORS!



INGVALD!

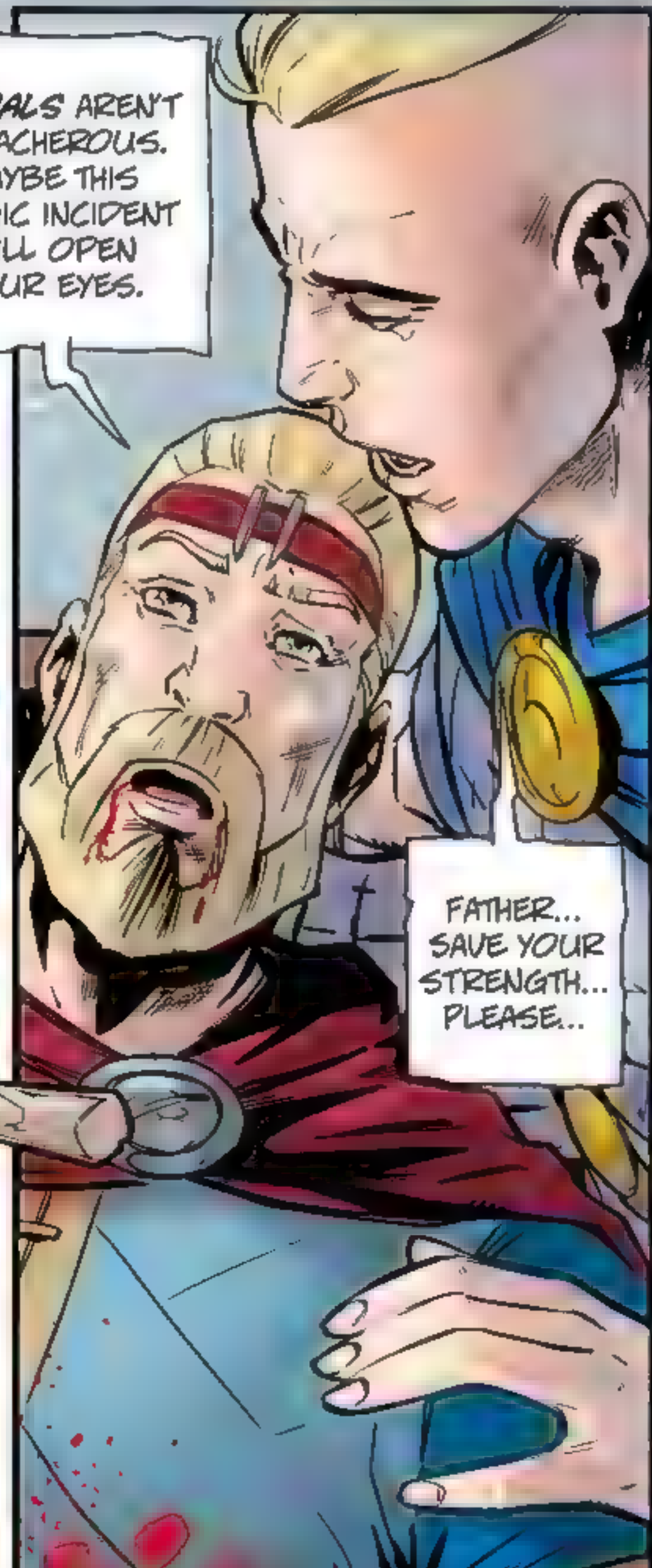
AAAAHHH!

ARNHILD,
DIVE!

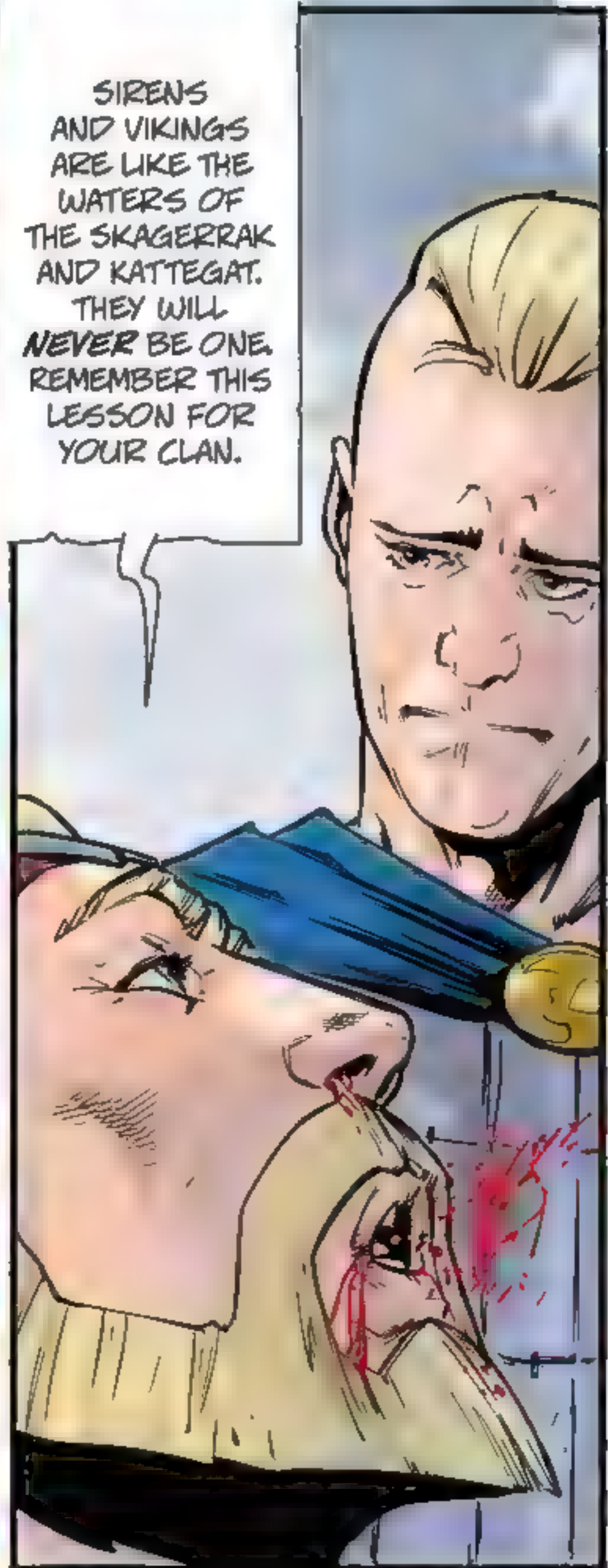


YOU WERE
RIGHT... THE SIRENS
AREN'T ANIMALS...

ANIMALS AREN'T
TREACHEROUS.
MAYBE THIS
TRAGIC INCIDENT
WILL OPEN
YOUR EYES.

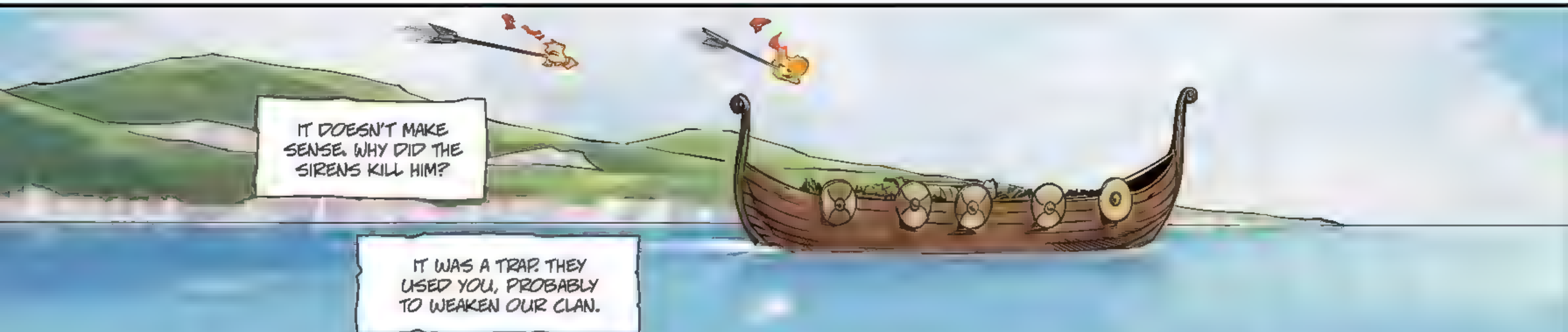


FATHER...
SAVE YOUR
STRENGTH...
PLEASE...



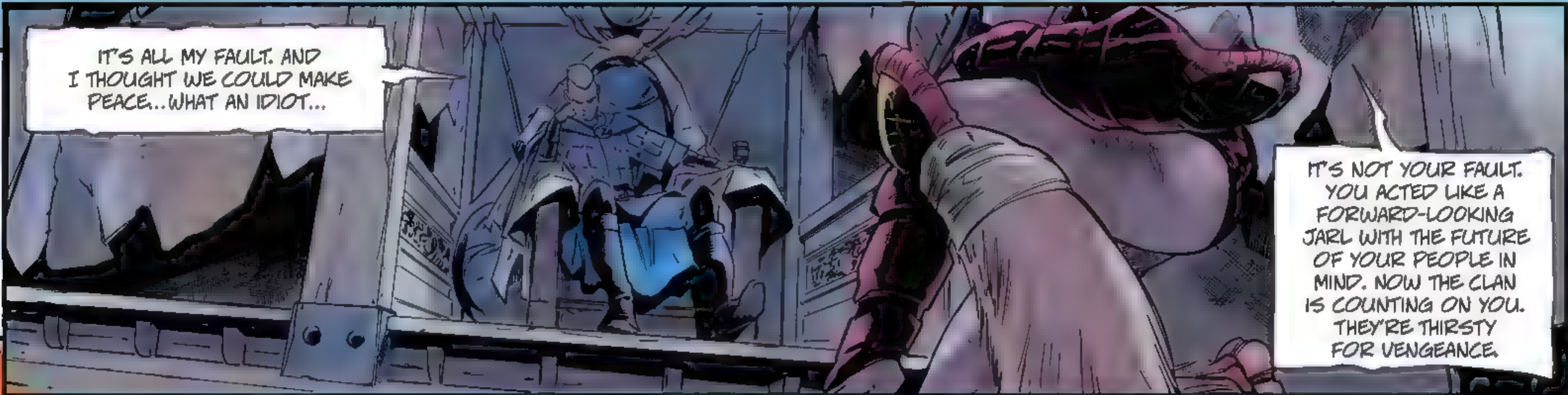
SIRENS
AND VIKINGS
ARE LIKE THE
WATERS OF
THE SKAGERRAK
AND KATTEGAT.
THEY WILL
NEVER BE ONE.
REMEMBER THIS
LESSON FOR
YOUR CLAN.





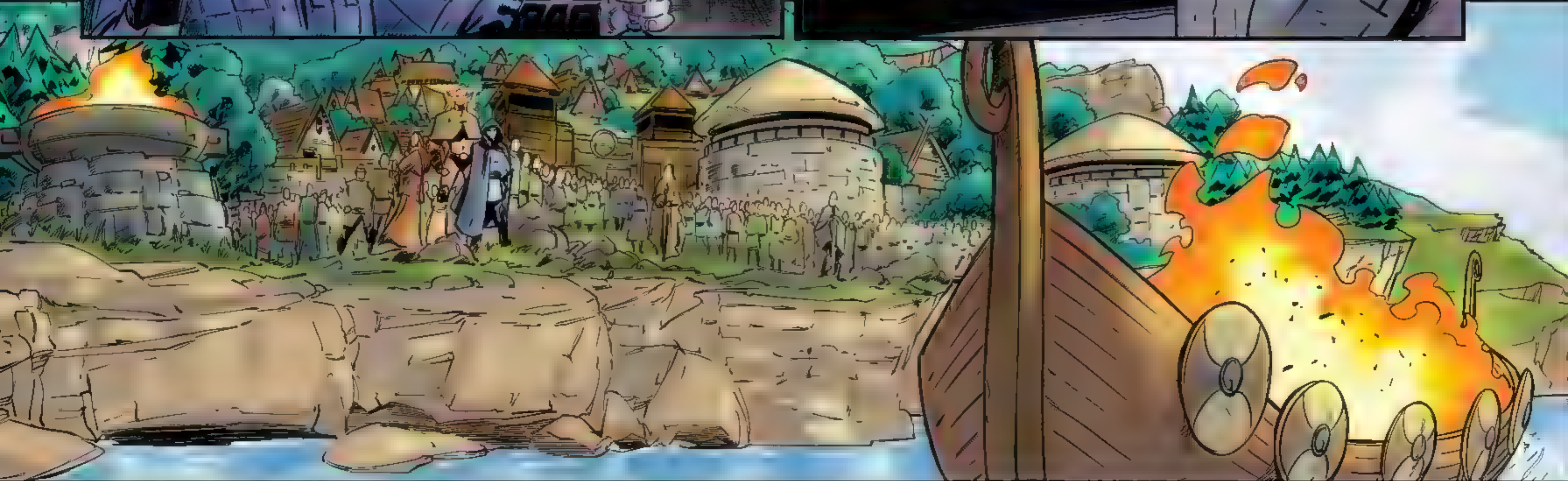
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. WHY DID THE SIRENS KILL HIM?

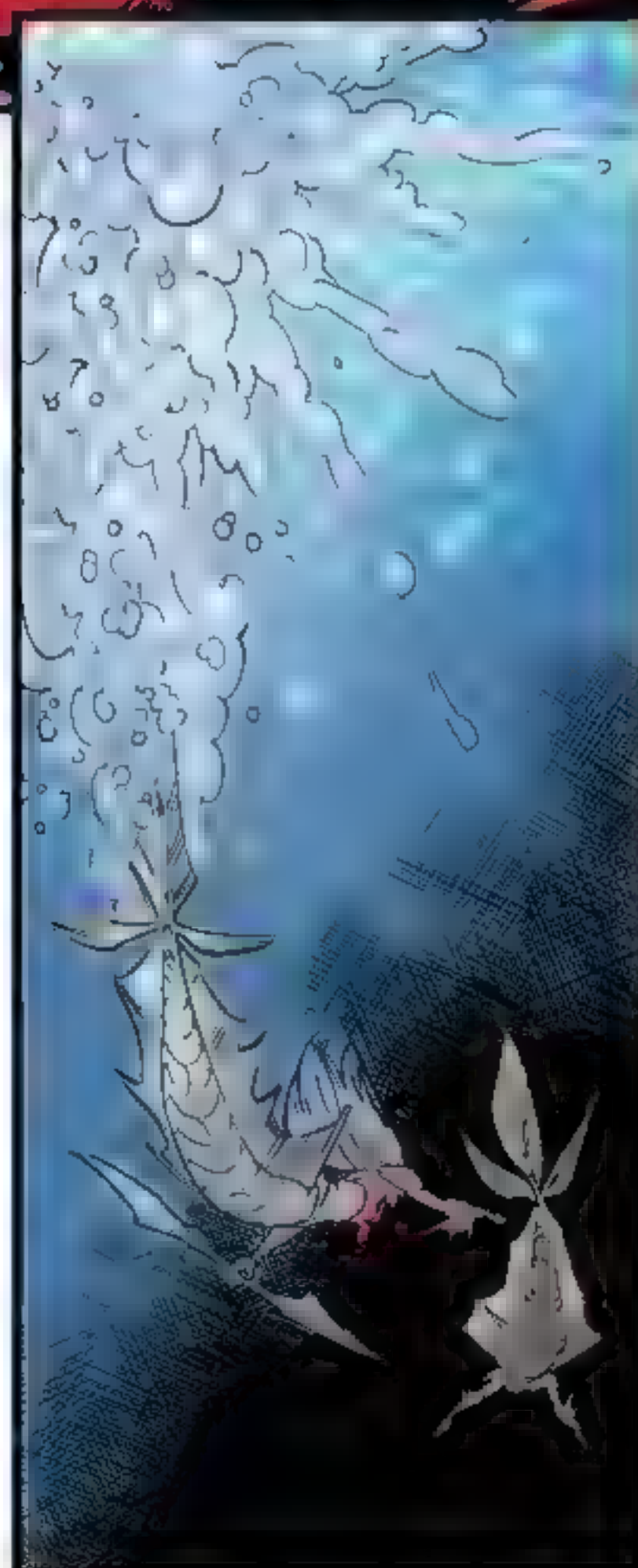
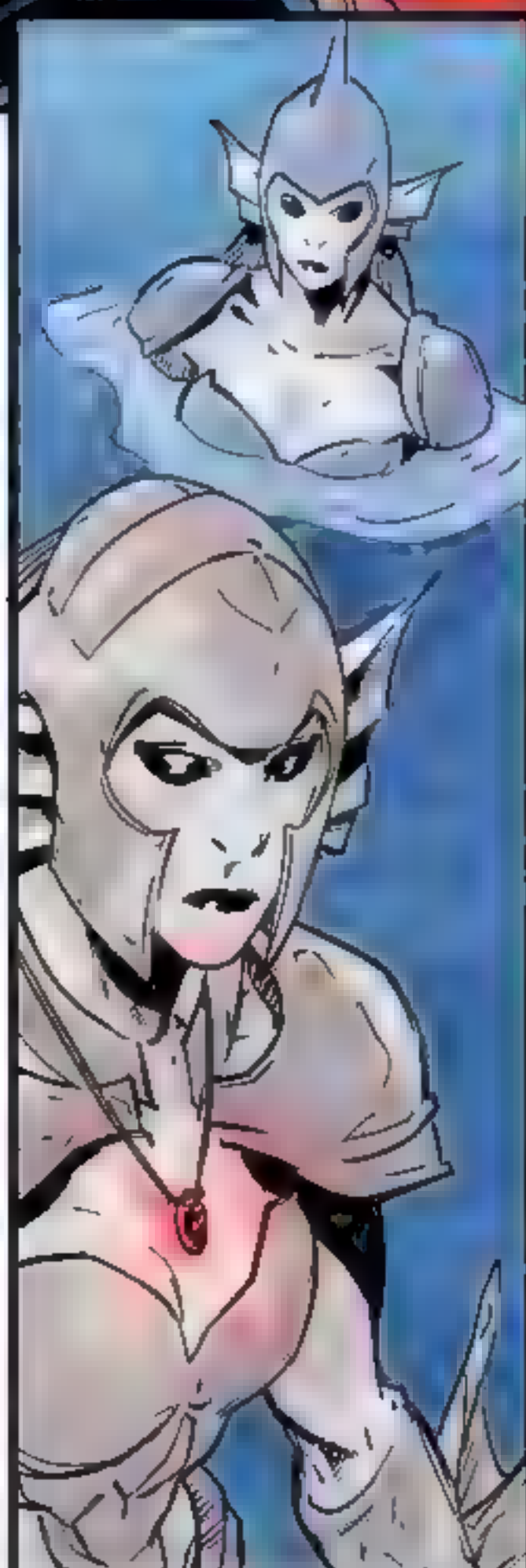
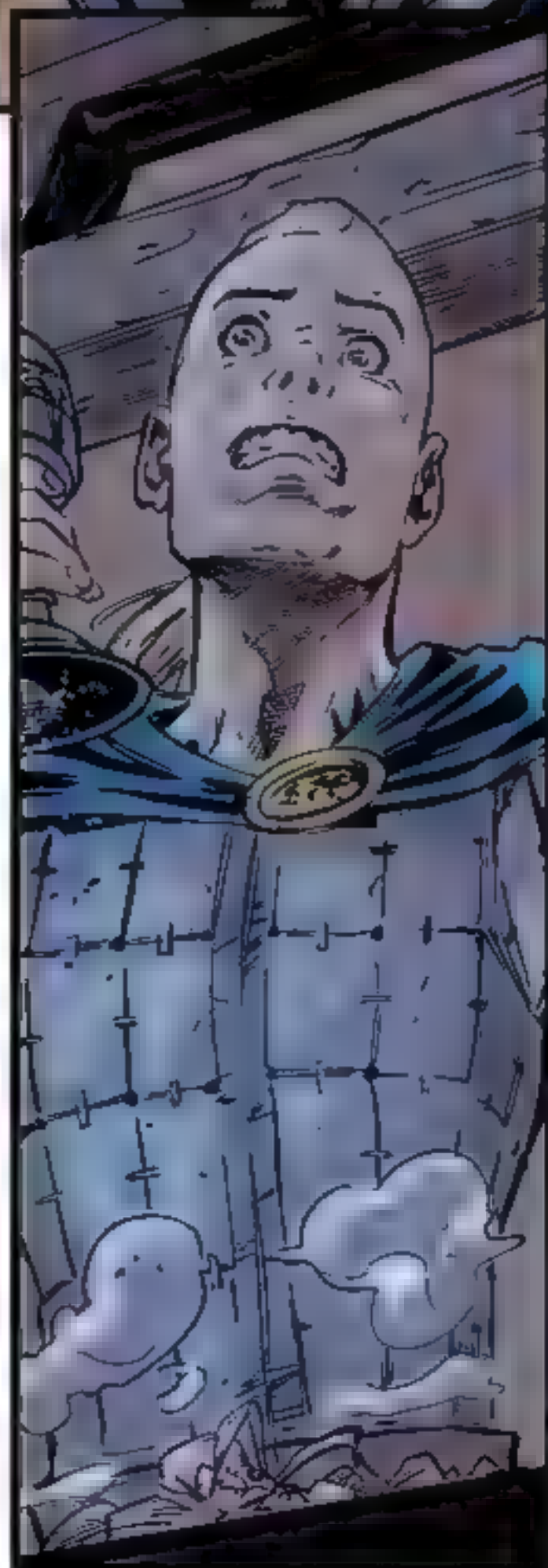
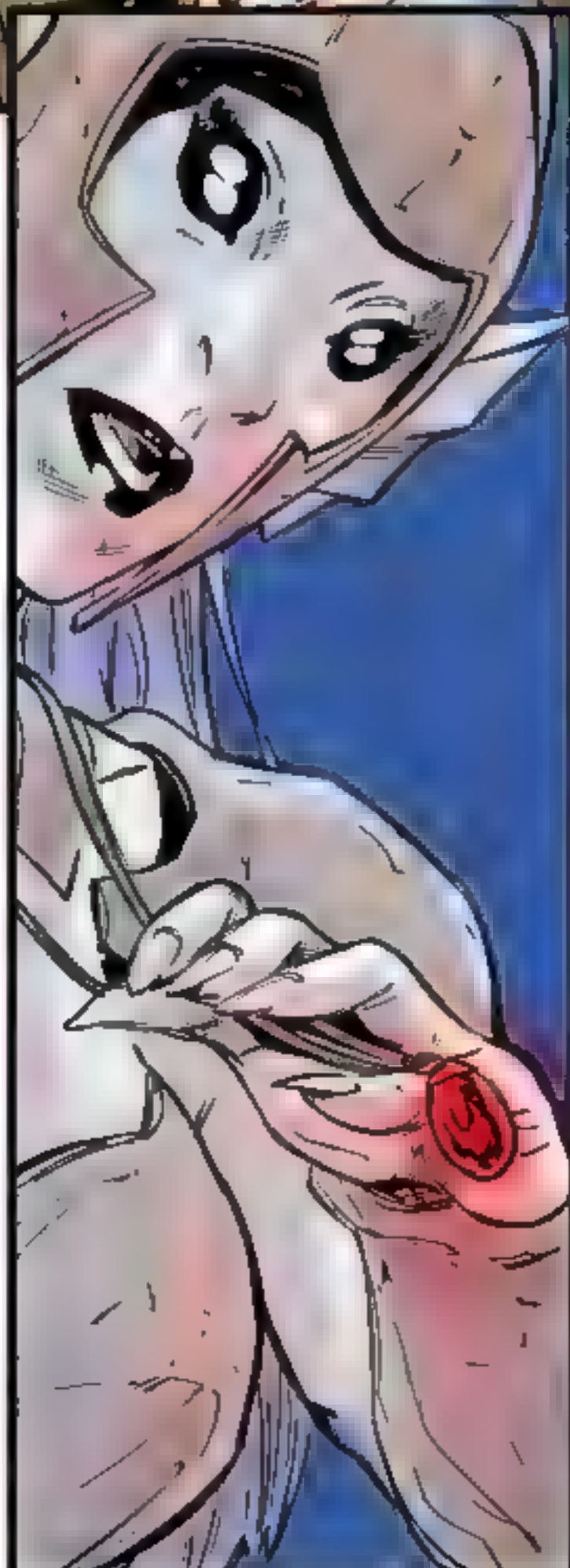
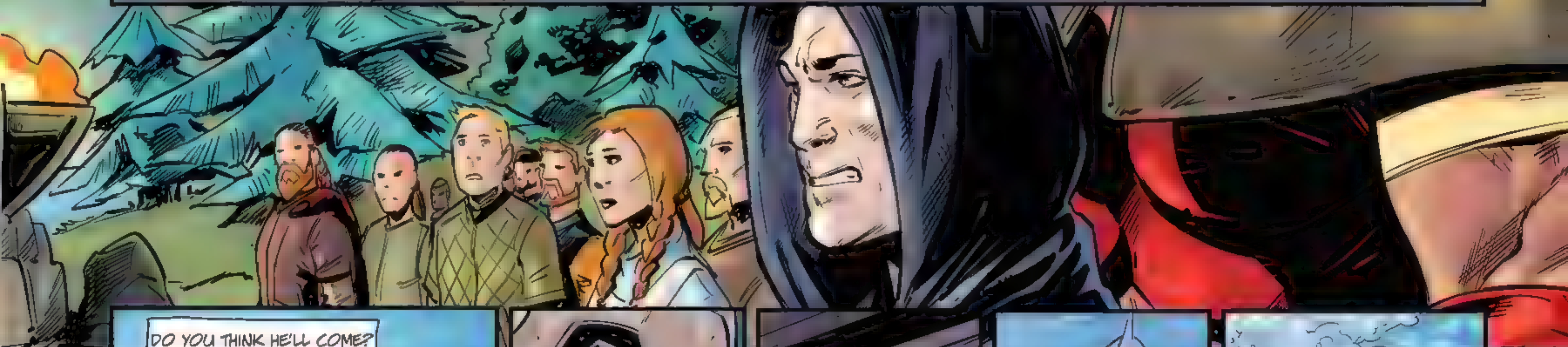
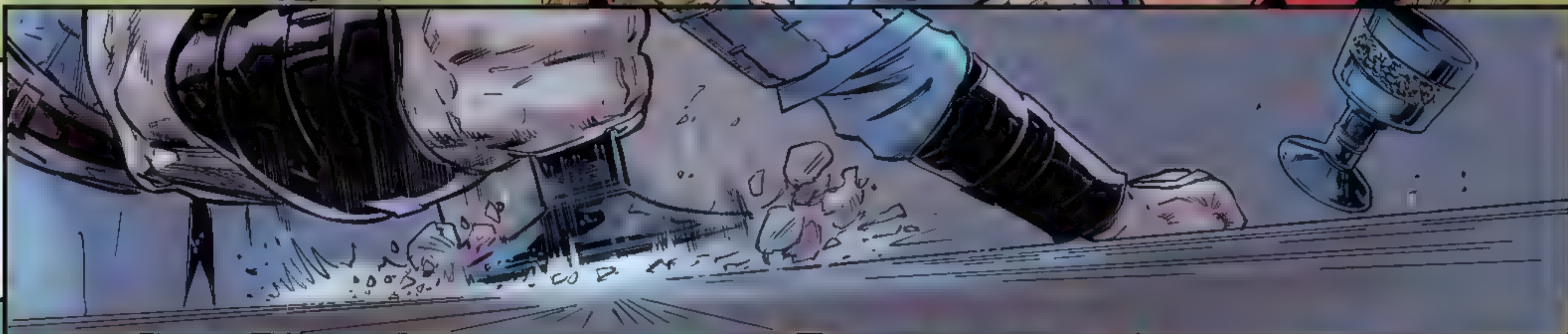
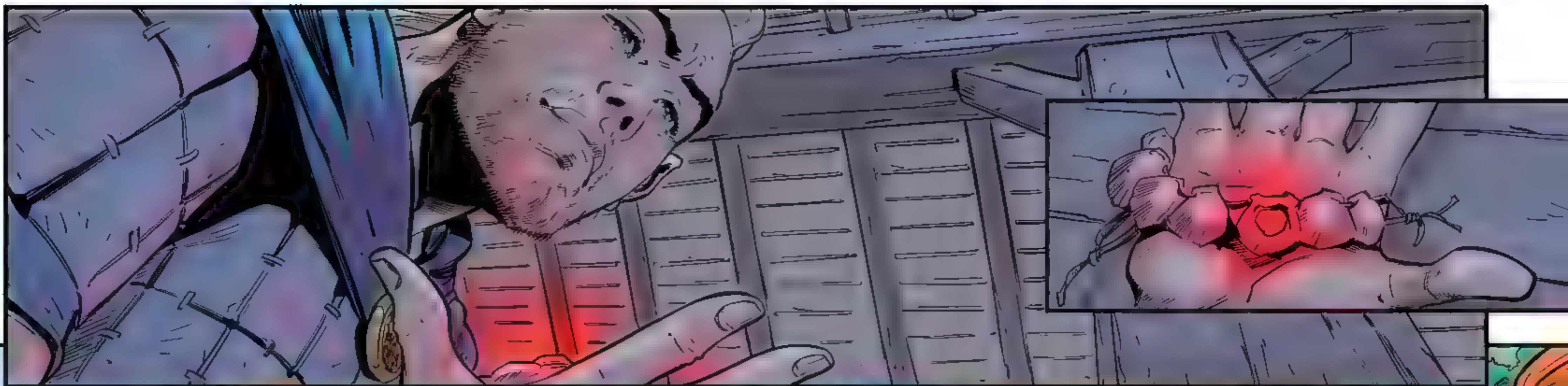
IT WAS A TRAP. THEY USED YOU, PROBABLY TO WEAKEN OUR CLAN.



IT'S ALL MY FAULT. AND I THOUGHT WE COULD MAKE PEACE...WHAT AN IDIOT...

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT. YOU ACTED LIKE A FORWARD-LOOKING JARL WITH THE FUTURE OF YOUR PEOPLE IN MIND. NOW THE CLAN IS COUNTING ON YOU. THEY'RE THIRSTY FOR VENGEANCE.





ARNHILD'S CAVE,
THE NEXT DAY...

I WARNED YOU,
ARNHILD!

BUT DESPITE
EVERYTHING THAT'S
HAPPENED, I'M VERY
PROUD OF YOU. YOU'RE
THE ONLY SIREN WHO HAD
THE COURAGE TO TRY
TO UNITE US WITH OUR
ENEMIES.

IF I FIND OUT WHO
KILLED FROWIN, I COULD
PROVE WE'RE INNOCENT.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE MUST TAKE
PRECAUTIONS. THE MAGIC WEAPON
IS FINALLY READY, WE CAN USE IT
TO DESTROY THE CONCH. THEN WE
CAN FREE JORMUNGANDR FROM
ITS CHAINS.

IN THE
SIRENS' LAIR.

LOOK OUT!
JORMUNGANDR!...

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO MAKE AMENDS. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE FAST ENOUGH TO GET NEAR THE CONCH. YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE BEFORE JÖRMUNGANDR WIPES OUT OUR CLAN.

I HAVE TO GET PAST JÖRMUNGANDR TO ATTACK INGVALD'S SHIP...

YOUR SISTERS WILL ATTACK THE NORSE AND JÖRMUNGANDR TO DISTRACT THEM. YOU'LL MAKE IT, YOU HAVE TO.

I LOVE YOU, MY DAUGHTER.

RAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!

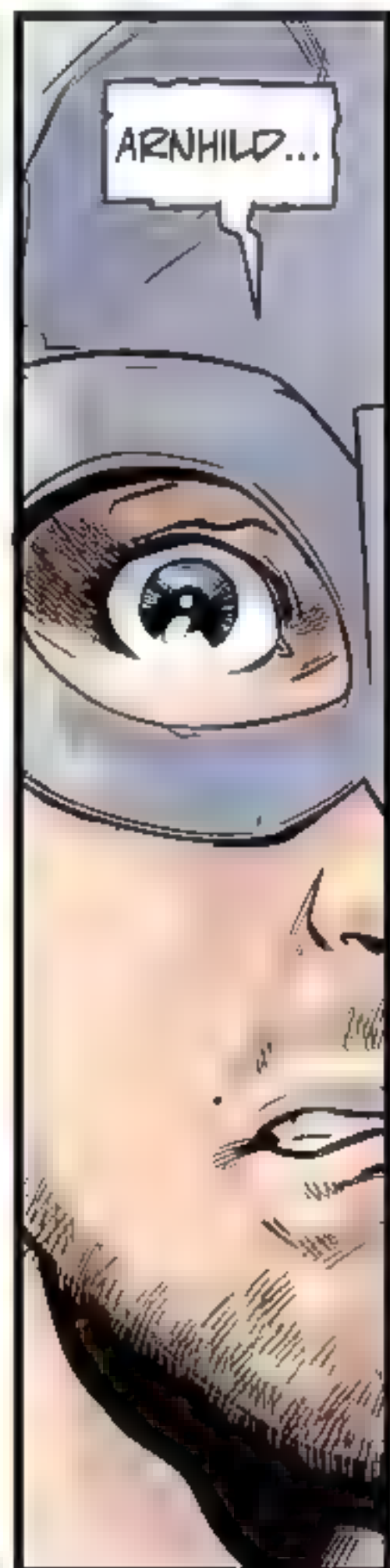
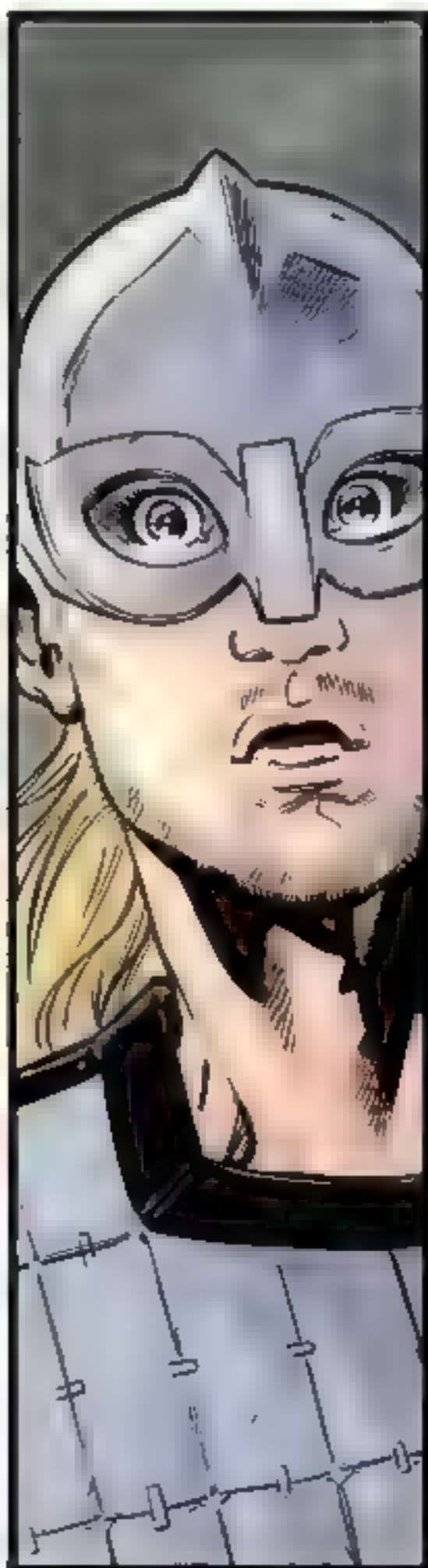
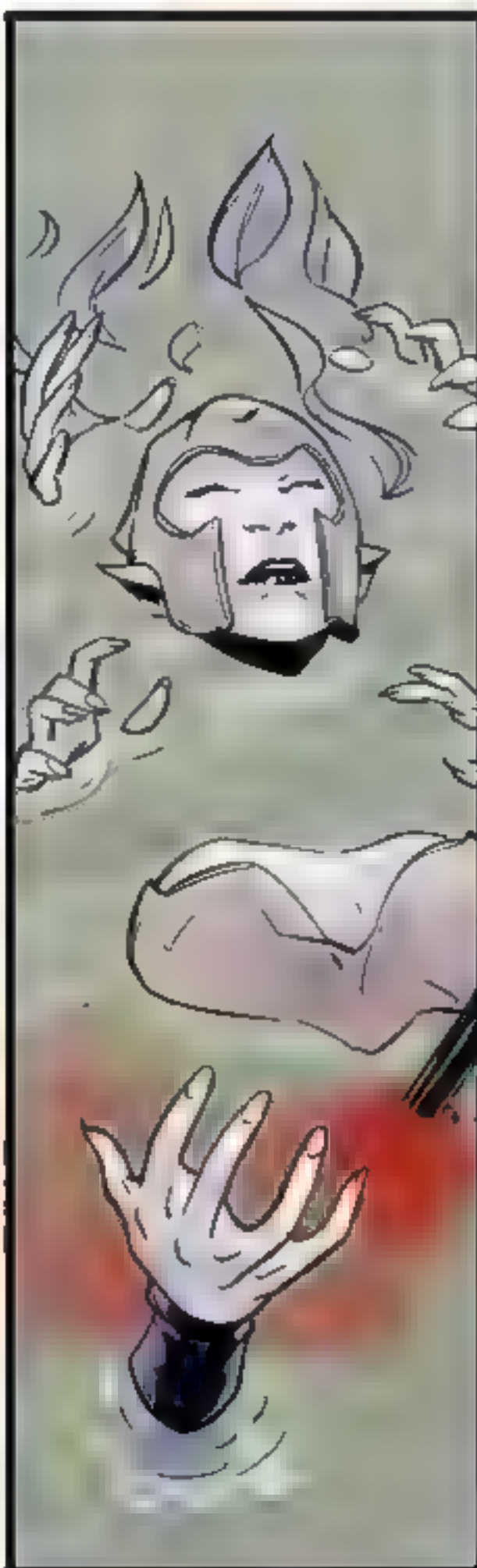
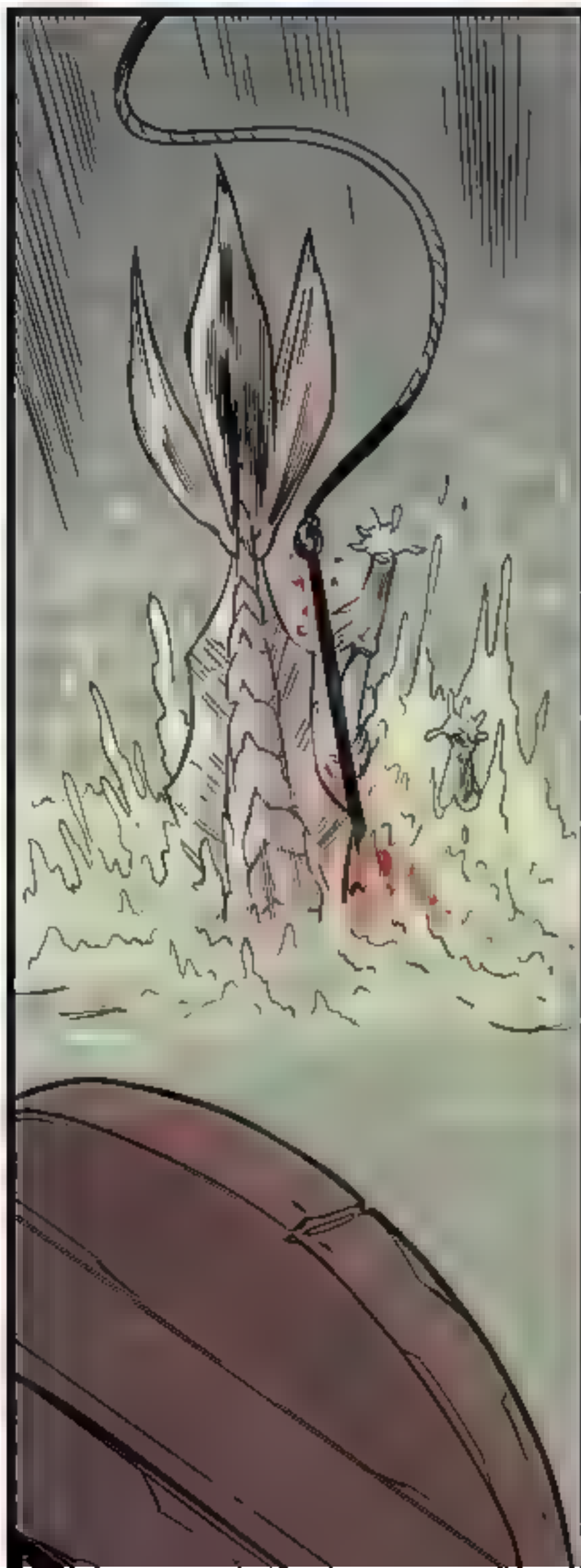
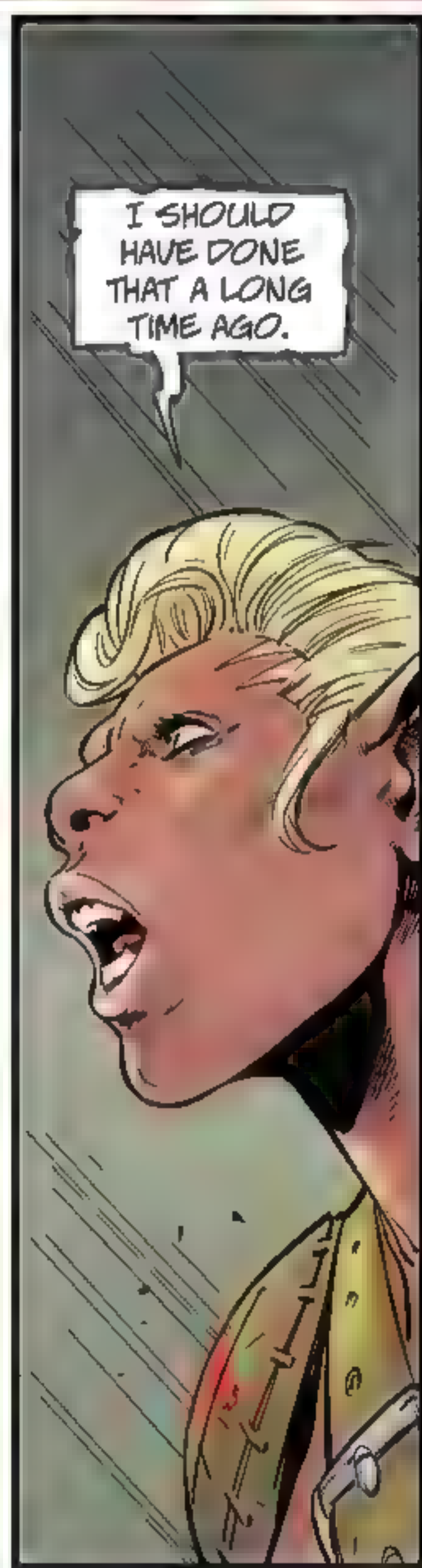
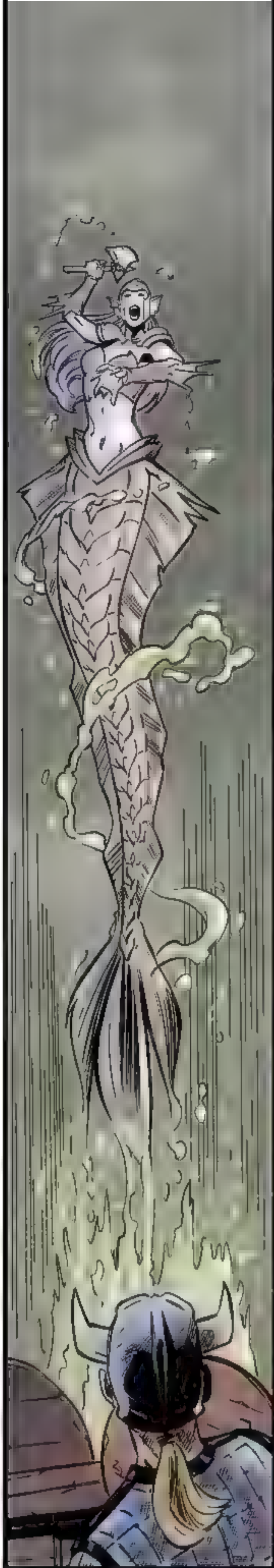
BY THOR, THEY'RE SHOWERING US WITH SPEARS.

LET'S HOPE THE BOATS HOLD OUT.

BRRRRRRRRRRRROOOOOOOO...

SAVE YOUR HARPOONS. WAIT UNTIL THEY GET CLOSER TO THE SURFACE. THEY'LL GET TIRED BEFORE WE DO.

BRRRRRRRRRRRROOOOOOOO...





THE SIRENS
ARE FALLING
BACK.

JORMUNGANDR
IS LEAVING, TOO!
WE'RE SAVED!

THE GODS
ARE WITH US!



INGVALD, CAN'T
YOU HEAR YOUR
MEN CHEERING?!



WHY...? WHY
DID YOU KILL
HER?! YOU
DIDN'T HAVE T--



BECAUSE
**SHE'S THE
ENEMY!**
SHE WAS
ATTACKING
US! AND SHE
HEINOUSLY
CONSPIRED TO
MURDER YOUR
FATHER! HAVE
YOU ALREADY
FORGOTTEN?!



THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN YOU MESS WITH THE JARL!
SHE GOT WHAT SHE DESERVED.
AND I DID WHAT I HAD TO
DO FOR OUR CLAN!



HAHA! OUR CLAN?!
A BASTARD MONGREL
LIKE YOU?!



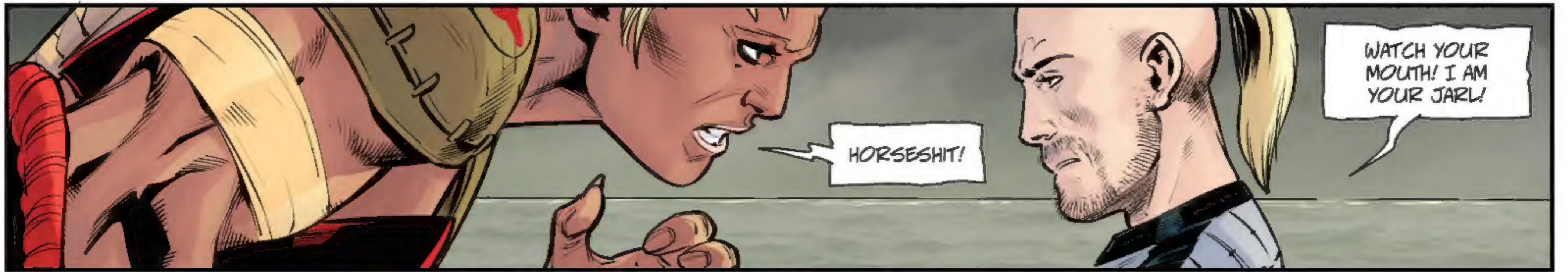
SO THIS IS YOUR
TRUE FACE. WHY DID
YOU DO IT? OUT OF
JEALOUSY? REVENGE?

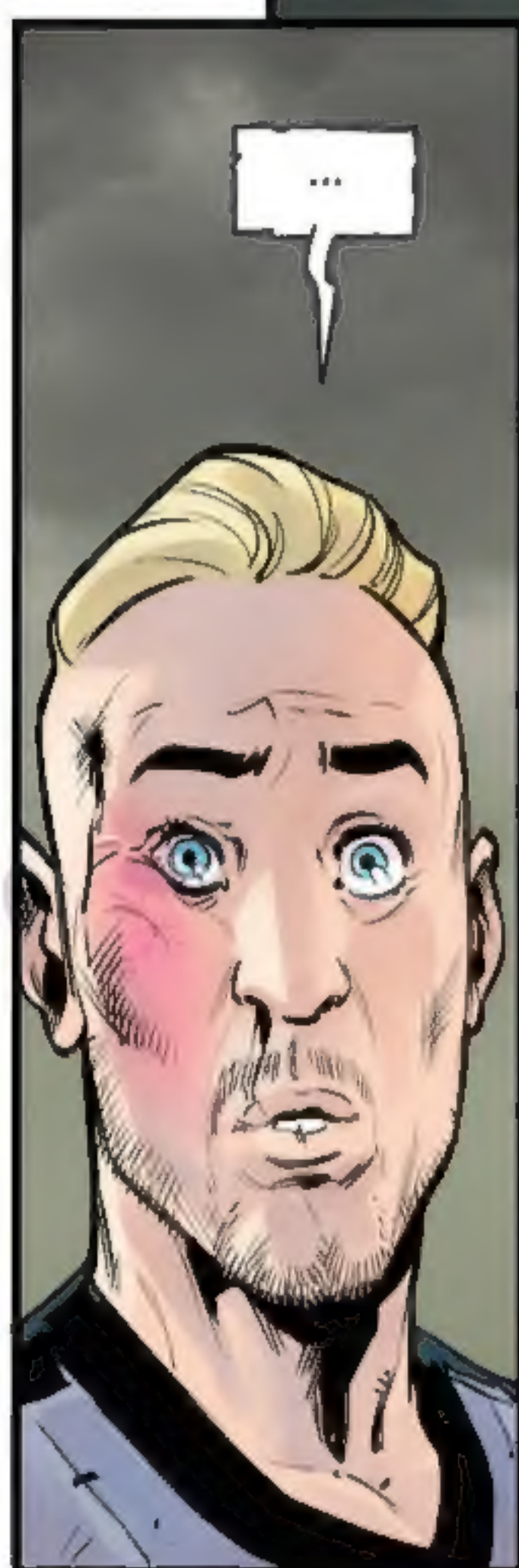
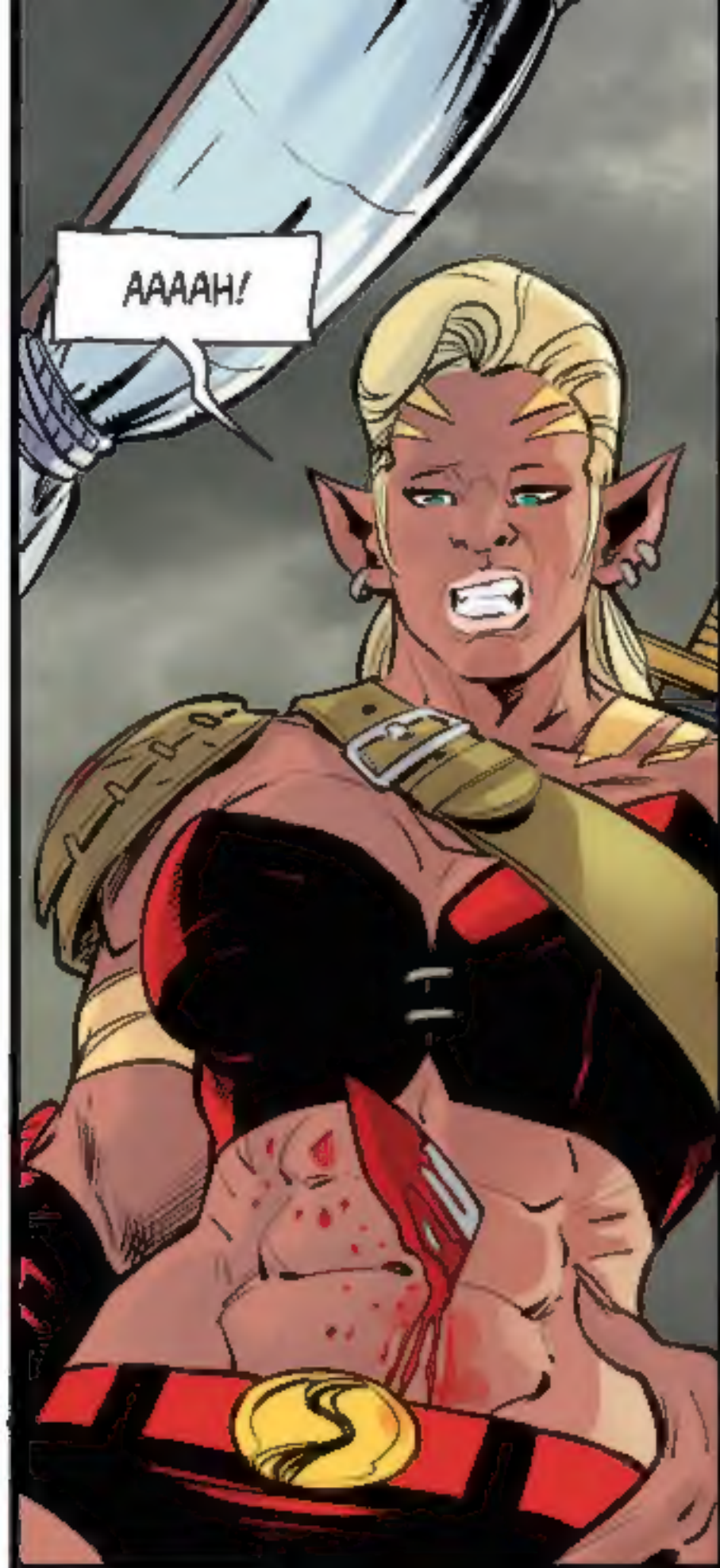


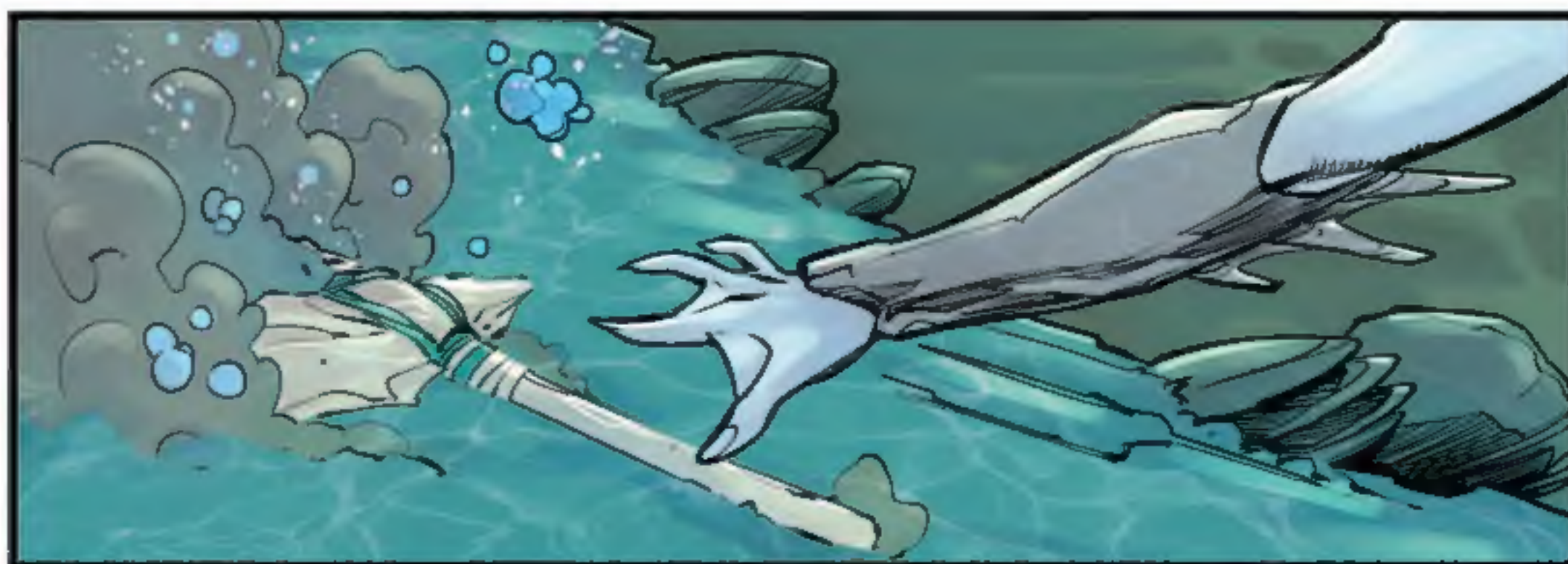
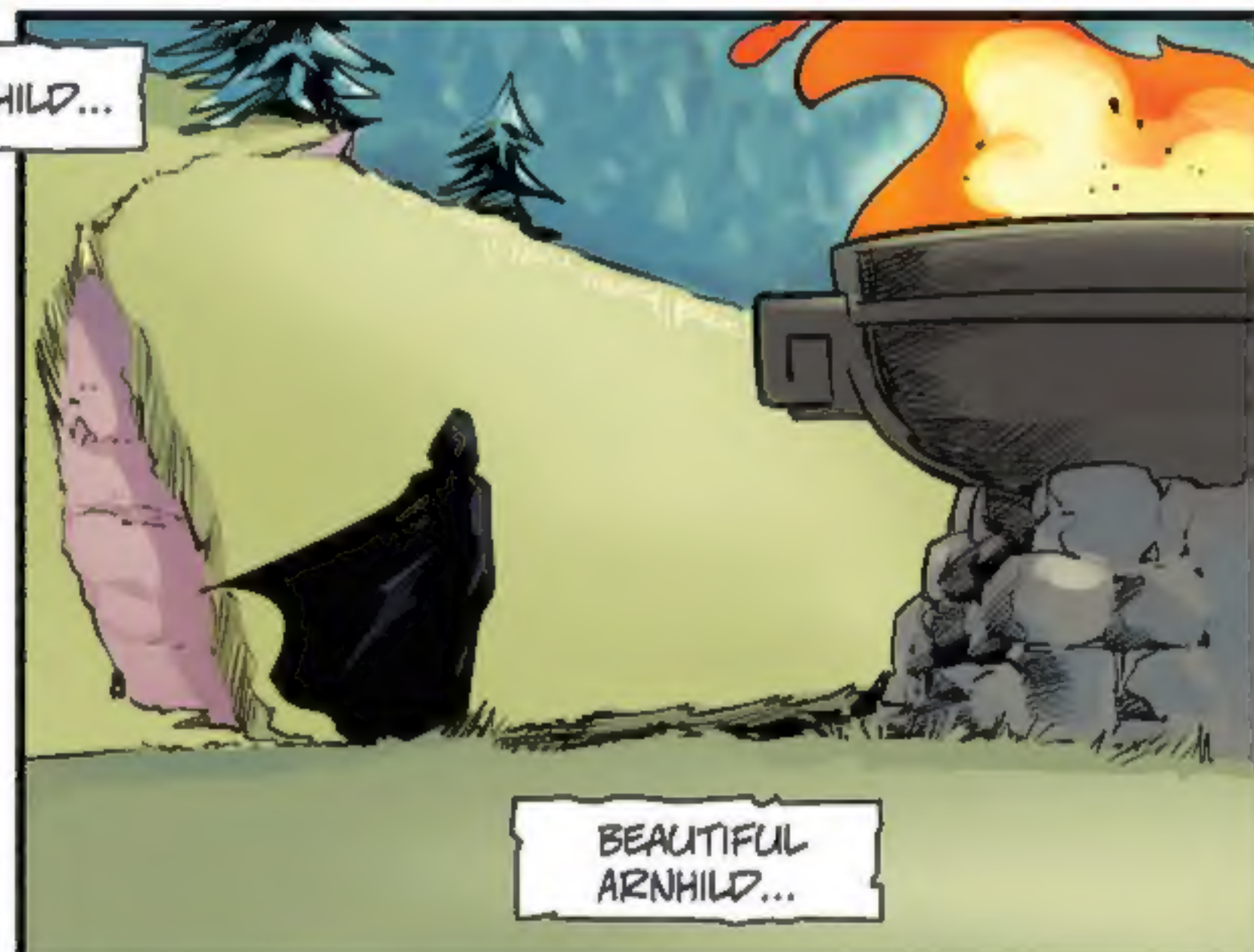
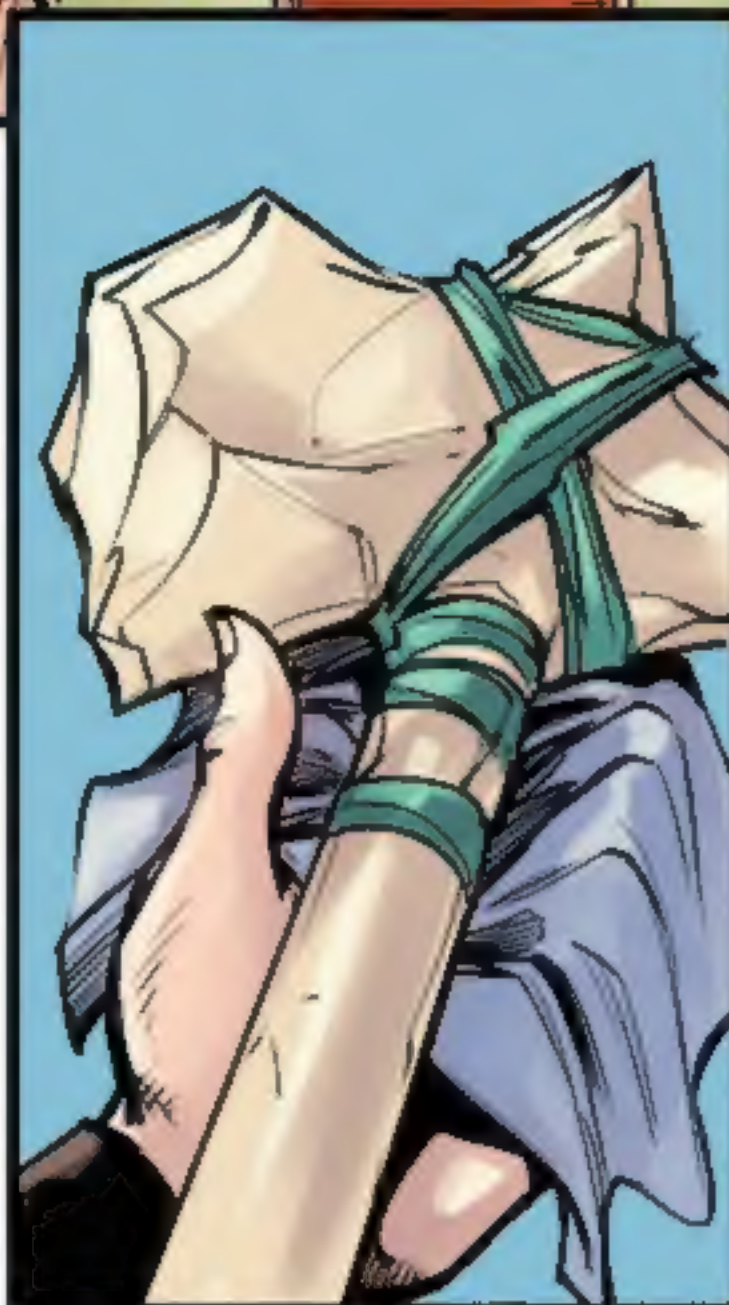
HYPOCRITE! YOU
PRIORITIZED HER OVER
YOUR DUTIES. YOU
DISGUST ME!



IF WE'RE ALIVE RIGHT
NOW, IT'S BECAUSE THEY
SPARED US! OUR ONLY
ADVANTAGE OVER THEM
WAS THE CONCH. NOW
THAT WE NO LONGER HAVE
IT, THE SIRENS COULD
SINK US IN A HEARTBEAT
IF THEY WANTED TO!







FRANÇOISE RUSCAK (PAGES 7 TO 58)

& **GIHEF** (PAGES 61 TO 112)

WRITERS

ISABELLE BAUTHIAN (PAGES 7 TO 58)

ORIGINAL STORY

PHIL BRIONES (PAGES 7 TO 58)

& **MARCO DOMINICI** (PAGES 2, 3, 61 TO 120)

ARTISTS

JOSEP HOMS

COVER ARTIST & TITLE PAGE

BEN CROZE

& **VICTORIA PIERCE**

TRANSLATORS

VICTORIA PIERCE

US EDITION EDITOR

CÉCILE CHABRAUD

ORIGINAL EDITION EDITOR

JERRY FRISSEN

SENIOR ART DIRECTOR

MARK WAID

PUBLISHER

RIGHTS AND LICENSING - licensing@humanoids.com

PRESS AND SOCIAL MEDIA - pr@humanoids.com

SIRENS OF THE NORSE SEA Book 1 The Waters of Skagerrak

First Edition. This title is a publication of Humanoids, Inc. 8033 Sunset Blvd. #628, Los Angeles, CA 90046.

Copyright © 2021 Humanoids, Inc., Los Angeles (USA).

All rights reserved. Humanoids and its logos are ® and © 2021 Humanoids, Inc. Library of Congress Control Number: 2020946706

The story and characters presented in this publication are fictional. Any similarities to events or persons living or dead are purely coincidental. No portion of this book may be reproduced by any means without the express written consent of the copyright holder except for artwork used for review purposes. Printed in Latvia.

